New-York Tribune.

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The Weekly Tribune.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Lower House of the South Carolina Legislature have rejected the Constitutional Amendment, by a vote of 95 to 1; and there is no prospect that it will fare any better, if as well, in the Senate. The vote was a matter of form, merely; the sentiment of South Carolina on this subject is many months stale.

A London dispatch informs us that there is no longer any danger apprehended of a Fenian revolution in Ireland, and that "confidence has returned to the "people," which seems an ironical expression when we consider how many British regiments have been sent to keep the people quiet.

"Cheap goods" is the free-trade watchword of the peddlers of commerce. High prices, temporary only under any circumstances, and ever sure to fall under competition, are no hindrance to consumption. For where all labor receives a corresponding compensation, as under a tariff to promote diversified industry, price is no obstacle to the exchange of labor.

A resolution, offered by Mr. Stevens, was adopted in the House on the 20th, for the organization of free schools in the District of Columbia, in which no distinction shall be made on account of color. This is the inevitable result of the bill establishing equal suffrage. A little more such legislation will make the District more worthy than it now is to hold the [illegible] of the [illegible].

[illegible] Government, it seems, is getting into [illegible]. It must have a more efficient military organization, unless it consents to be vastly inferior as a military power to Northern Germany; but the measures which have been prepared for reforming the military system are spreading discontent among all classes of the population. After the Mexican and Roman fiascos, a general discontent in France forebodes serious danger to the Napoleonic Government.

The Diet of Croatia, we are informed by a Cable dispatch, has declared in favor of a separate administration. This means that the Croatians, who have heretofore been subject to the crown of Hungary, demand to be independent of Hungary, as Hungary wants to be independent of Austria. This is a new embarrassment for the Austrian Government, which offends the whole Sclavic race if it refuses the demand of the Croatians, and gives new offense to Hungary if it sides with Croatia.

The Emperor of Austria seems, after all, to have deemed it safest to make peace with the Magyars, for a Cable dispatch informs us that in Thursday's sitting of the Hungarian Diet, the *Tavernicus* (the highest administrative officer of Hungary) announced that the Emperor had resolved to restore the Constitution. This step—supposing that it is not made dependent upon offensive conditions—will produce an immense enthusiasm in Hungary, but it will greatly excite the Sclavic tribes which belong to the Hungarian Crown, and will increase the dissatisfaction in the German provinces.

Congress has raised the salaries of its members and of the clerks of several departments, upon the ground that the increased cost of living demanded an increase of wages. With these precedents, the Committee on Printing will scarcely report in favor of the bill to reduce the wages of the compositors in the Government Printing Office, and restore the ten-hour system. They now receive but twenty-four dollars a week, little enough we think, and less in specie than they were paid before the war. They have laid before Congress an argument showing the injustice of the bill, and we cannot believe that such an unwise measure will be adopted.

Democratic members of the House made a point of declining to serve on the New-Orleans Investigating Committee. It is no matter for wonder that Mr. Johnson's friends should desire to put an obstacle in the way of inquiry into what was done under his inspiration in New-Orleans. But the Democratic remnants are not so foolish as to suppose they can prevent an investigation; they purpose, by keeping off the Committee, to raise a cry against the report, when presented, as a partisan statement. They believe their Democratic constituents stupid enough to be imposed upon by a device so shallow as this, and as they know their own party better than we can, we shall not accuse them of under-estimating its intelligence. But other people will see the sham.

Recall the encouragement given by the Government to invest in the national bonds—seven and three-tenths per cent interest, exemption from taxation, convertibility into gold. 'Twas wise; for the war could not have been carried on without the money. But the duty of a Government to provide money to pay a war debt is quite as great as its duty to run into debt in order to save its life. Can't Congress and the Secretary of the Treasury see the paramount obligation of inviting capital into productive industry by offering it permanency of investment, satisfactory profit, and exemption from burdensome taxation? The principal and interest of the public debt, into which capital was coaxed by attractive terms, have got to be paid, and there is no device known among men whereby they can be paid save through profitable, diversified, domestic manufacturing—and that only a protective tariff can create.

The experiment is being tried of taking $300,000,000 a year from the people of the United States, in the shape of Internal Revenue taxes. The point of exhaustion has already been reached in numerous quarters where profits of industry do not yield the tax, and where it is levied on and collected out of capital invested. The stone-blind surely can see the end of this. Unless American industry can be made profitable, so that taxation can take from profits and not touch capital, the public revenues will inevitably fail, the business of the country and much of its realized wealth will be whelmed under bankruptcy, and the party now in power will be hurled out of office with a passion and unanimity unprecedented in our politics. 'Ware the day, gentlemen in Washington, when politics shall crystalize about the question of direct taxation. You can only avert that day by saving to American Industry its own market, by imposing sufficient checks on foreign importations through a Protective Tariff.

The war on the River Plate has for some time been taking a turn specially unfavorable to Brazil. There are indications that there may be still greater troubles in store for the South American Empire. Paraguay has long been in negotiation with Bolivia for the conclusion of an alliance, and the last mail brings a report that a treaty, offensive and defensive, has been concluded, according to which Bolivia will supply to Paraguay a contingent of 2,500 men, carry the war into Brazil, and, if possible, republicanize that country. If this report should be confirmed Brazil will find it exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, to defend its Western Provinces, the only communication with which in former years was by the rivers now made impassable by the guns of the Paraguayans. It is also confirmed that both the Presidents of the Argentine Republic and Uruguay are powerless to aid any longer in carrying on the war. The latter may any moment be unseated by his opponents at home; and the former is even said to be favorable to the alliance between Paraguay and Bolivia.

Gov. Cummings of Colorado has addressed a message to the Legislature, in which he argues at length against the erection of the territory into a State, "under the impression," as he says, "that there is a claim upon him for a candid statement and discussion of the whole question." We fully agree with Gov. Cummings as to the claim, but as to the candor with which he has attempted to discharge it there may be a difference of opinion. His principal argument is that the inhabitants of the territory don't want to be admitted into the Union, in proof whereof he cites the action of the Territorial Senate at their last session in rejecting the project for a State Government. We don't appreciate the force of this circumstance, considering that the Senate subsequently reversed their action, and the House of Representatives likewise voted for admission. The new Legislature which has just assembled, and which certainly ought to know the sentiment of its constituents quite as well as Mr. Cummings, is also understood to be largely in favor of the erection of a State Government. Mr. Cummings's statement that the party desiring admission is only a [illegible]able faction composed of ambitious demagogues and place-hunters therefore lacks confirmation.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

Another case, occurring under the oppressive apprentice laws in Maryland, has just been made public in Calvert County. Early in 1865 a colored man named John Lox, was summoned before the Orphan's Court for the purpose of having his children bound out. He refused to give his consent to have his children taken from him, and produced abundant evidence of his ability to maintain and educate them. Judge Bond, before whom the hearing was had, refused to apprentice them. The former master of Lox's wife, a Mr. Duke, subsequently appeared, made the necessary affidavit, and secured the children. Upon this Lox procured legal advice, and his children, under some process, were returned to him by the County Sheriff. The father has now been indicted by the Grand Jury of Calvert County, upon the oath of Dr. Duke, of harboring and enticing his own children from their master, even though they had been regularly delivered to him under a writ of habeas corpus. A communication has been received at the Freedmen's Bureau at Washington from the Superintendent at Annapolis, Md., stating that several cases similar to the above have occurred in that vicinity. A number of cases were before Judge Bond, in Baltimore, a few days ago, who returned the children to their parents; but the order of the Court was obeyed in one case and attachments have been issued in the others. In one case Judge Magruder decided that the writ of his court took precedence of the proceedings in the Criminal Court. The Superintendent says that the present state of the law is very perplexing, and that until it shall be decided whether replevin will hold in these cases, no children are safe unless they are removed from the country. Petitions from the colored people are daily sent to the Commissioner for the release of their children, as they believe the General Assembly, which meets the 1st of January, will legislate so as to make these indentures legal. It is a practice with Judge Magruder of Anne Arundel County, Md., which seems, from its general adoption, to have been maturely considered and permanently determined on, of selling colored men whenever opportunity offers. Under the Maryland Code, supplement to vol. 1, page 34, article 30, section 6, colored persons are sold into slavery for the punishment of crimes, for which white persons are sent to the Penitentiary, but, under the Civil Rights act, it is a question of solution, whether Judge Magruder has the right to discriminate against color in this manner....Four negroes, convicted of larceny, and ordered to be sold by Judge Magruder, at Annapolis, were sold on Saturday. Some 20 or 30 farmers were present at the sale. The first one sold was John Johnson, who bid for himself, and, the auctioneer taking his bid, he was finally knocked down to himself, and became his own purchaser for $37. Another man brought $35, and two girls brought respectively $22 and $30 each. ....There was an officer of the Freedmen's Bureau at the sales, and it was thought the bidding would have been more spirited but for the fact that an impression seemed to prevail that the officer in question was about to interfere with the right of the purchasers and release the negroes from the custody of the purchaser. The officer, Major Vandelip, was, however, only present for the purpose of making an affidavit, so that Judge Magruder could be brought to trial, before a United States Court, under the Civil Rights bill. The affidavit was made before the United States Commissioner, and the case will probably be heard this week....The Special Committee of Congress for the investigation of frauds in the Internal Revenue Department has adjourned, to reassemble at the Astor House, New-York, after the holidays. Developments so far more than fulfill the promises of those who instigated the investigation. The Committee has learned that gigantic frauds have been practiced in New-York, and that Government officials are implicated. They have discovered that there are over 3,000 small distilleries carried on in the city, in the cellars and outhouses of private dwellings, where whisky is made for the purpose of evading the tax of $2 per gallon. Among the witnesses examined were several coppersmiths, who testified that the demand for such vessels as are used for illicit distillation in these private establishments has been unprecedented during the last year. Merchants testified that they had purchased whisky for $1 75 per gallon, or 25c. less than the Government tax, and the proprietors of large distilleries told the Committee that they could not compete with the smugglers, and had in many instances to suspend work entirely....The magnitude of the leak they are endeavoring to stop may be judged from the fact that, according to the census of 1860, the amount of whisky made in the United States was upward of 90,000,000 gallons, and by the last report of the Revenue Commissioners it was less than 10,000,000....C. P. Bundy, a claim agent of Washington City, has been debarred from all intercourse, official or otherwise, with the Pay Department, for alleged malpractice....A large delegation of wool-growers, who were in Washington looking after the tariff, on Tuesday had a protracted interview with Secretary McCulloch in regard to this matter. The Secretary and Commissioner Wells are both understood to be opposed to imposing any additional duty on wool. The wool-growers simply desired to assure the Secretary that unless something was done to aid this important interest, and protect them against the present unjust tariff, they would be compelled to abandon their business. The bill which passed the House at the last session is all the protection they require. The Secretary gave them a hearing, but did not indicate what course he intended to pursue in regard to the matter.... Great difficulty was experienced in procuring a Democrat to serve upon the Committee to investigate the New-Orleans massacre, and no less than four declined to serve. The first was Taylor (Tenn.), who was excused on account of business; then Campbell (Tenn.), who urged the same reason; next McCullough (Md.), who was relieved in consequence of urgent business; and finally Denison (Pa.), who plead sickness as an excuse. Boyer (Pa.) has accepted the appointment....The Democratic State Committee of Connecticut have called a State Convention of ten delegates from each town, to meet at New-Haven, Jan. 8, to consider the "revolutionary acts" of the present Radical Congress, and the propriety of recommending a National Convention with reference to the same subject.... Gen. Howard, as one of the trustees, has purchased grounds and buildings for a university for colored men on Seventh-st., which will be opened about the first of February next. The object of the institution is to educate colored men for preachers, doctors, and teachers, it being the intention to join the two former professions, in order that the spiritual and bodily affairs may be administered by the same person. It is said the institution will be opened under very favorable auspices. The trustees embrace Gen. Howard, the Rev. Mr. Boynton, Senators Wilson and Pomeroy, Congressman Cook of Illinois, and others.... The President has issued an order directing that the proposed trial of Dr. Watson by a military commission shall be suspended. The Cabinet has directed that the decision of the Supreme Court in the Milligan case must be recognized, sustained and obeyed in good faith, by all parties. ....The Select Committee of the House to investigate the murder of soldiers in South Carolina, have postponed their visit to Charleston for the present, on account of the death of the mother of Mr. Cooper of Tennessee, and his consequent inability to serve on the Committee at this time.... The application for a writ of habeas corpus which was made to Chief Justice Chase for the release of Dr. Mudd, one of the assassination conspirators, will be denied on the ground that the recent decision of the Court does not apply to cases of that kind. It is understood that the counsel of Mudd will bring the matter before the entire Court with a view of obtaining a decision which will reach the other conspirators now confined in the Dry Tortugas. It is very doubtful whether the Court will grant the application in these cases. Reverdy Johnson, who is their counsel, is very confident that the Court will grant it....The President on Friday ordered warrants of pardon to be issued to ex-Gov. Thomas Fletcher of Arkansas, on the recommendation of the Attorney-General, and to N. R. Sledge of Mississippi, on the recommendation of the Attorney-General and Wm. L. Sharkey....Commander E. Simpson of the steamer Mohican, from Caro, Brazil, under date of Nov. 7, reports to the Navy Department that on the afternoon of the 30th ult., when off the coast of Maranham, the back of a large fish was seen about a cable's length from the ship, and inclined diagonally toward her. A few moments afterward the engines suddenly stopped. Steam was shut off, and a hurried examination made. No cause could be discovered for the remarkable result. Steam was again turned on, but the engines could not be forced ahead. At this time several pools of blood were seen to rise to the surface of the water under the stern. After a few moments it was discovered that a large blackfish or whale had been caught between the propeller and frame. The shock on the engines was very great.... During the war a soldier in the Union Army was taken prisoner by the Rebels, and, to save himself, as he alleges, from starvation while in a Southern prison, took the oath of allegiance to the Rebel Government, and joined its army. He was subsequently captured by the Federal forces, with arms in his hands, fighting against the United States, and imprisoned. He again enlisted in our army, in one of the United States volunteer regiments, and upon settlement of his accounts, he claimed pay for arrears due at the time of his first capture, and also for bounty and pay while in the Rebel prisons and the army. The Pay Department has decided that he has forfeited all pay and bounty by fighting against the Government, and the man is only allowed pay for his last enlistment....The colored citizens of the District of Columbia are holding private meetings to arrange for voting at the next municipal election, and to consider other matters in that connection. The Republican Association at their regular meeting last night passed a resolution declaring that, in its judgment, the organization of auxiliaries to this society, composed exclusively of colored persons is neither expedient as a matter of policy nor consistent with our Republican principles, which make no distinction on account of race or color....Information received by a prominent officer in this city from a gentleman in Memphis, well indorsed, states that the Rebel Gen. Forrest has the contract for constructing 45 miles of the Memphis and Little Rock Railroad from Duval's Bluff to Madison, Ark., and that the work is being prosecuted with energy. But it is stated that laborers are very scarce, and that Mr. Forrest wants 500, whom he will pay $1 per day and rations, and sell them any articles of clothing they may require, or pay them in cash....The following regulations in relation to indorsement of 7.30 notes forwarded to the Treasury Department must be carefully observed: Where notes transmitted for settlement were issued payable to order and are held and transmitted by the original owners, they must be indorsed by them, "Pay the Secretary of the Treasury for the redemption," and bonds will issue in their names. When notes payable to order are held by other parties than the original owners, they must have the indorsement of the original owners in blank and also be indorsed by the present owners, "Pay the Secretary of the Treasury for redemption," by the party forwarding them. When notes indorsed or transmitted by an attorney, administrator, executor, or other agent, they must be accompanied by the original, or a duly certified copy or certificate of the authority under which he acts, and in all cases by a letter stating the kind, "registered or coupon," and the denomination of the bonds wanted in exchange. When registered bonds are ordered, parties should state at which of the following places they wish the interest paid, viz: New-York, Philadelphia, Boston, Baltimore, New-Orleans, Chicago, St. Louis, Cincinnati, or Charleston. Express charges on 7.30 notes forwarded for conversion must in all cases be prepaid. Bonds will be sent by express on return free of expense.

CRIMES AND CASUALTIES.

A terrible calamity occurred at Memphis on the 19th instant. The confectionery establishment of Joseph Specht took fire between 3 and 4 o'clock a. m. About 25 persons were asleep in the third and fourth floors of the building. The fire, which originated in the cellar from some unknown cause, filled the upper stories with smoke and the fumes of burning charcoal, while the flames in part cut off egress by the stairs. Fourteen persons were suffocated in their rooms or lost their lives in attempting to escape by leaping from the windows.... The car-house of the New-York and New-Haven Railroad Company at New-Haven was burned on the 19th instant. The car-house, boiler-room and wood-shed were totally consumed, and two engines destroyed. The round house and repair shop adjoining, containing 15 or 16 engines, was saved through the efforts of the firemen. Loss about $30,000 and fully insured....A horrible accident occurred at Washingtonville, Orange County, a station on the Newburgh branch of the Erie Railroad, on Saturday, the particulars of which are as follows: On the day in question a Mrs. Millard entered the mill of Robert Wright at that place for the purpose of transacting some business with her husband. On reaching the second story of the building, she was in the act of passing along to the room in which her husband was located, when her dress accidentally caught in some machinery, and in an instant almost one of her legs was severed from her body. Her husband, Thomas Millard, hearing her cries for help, rushed to her assistance, and on endeavoring to get her out of the reach of the machinery, got his arm caught. The limb was instantly crushed above the elbow, only a shred of flesh holding it to his body. Millard placed his other hand in his pocket, and drawing out his knife, opened the blade with his teeth, and then completely severed the injured arm from the shoulder, and afterward conveyed his wife down stairs, when he could go no further. Several physicians were immediately summoned, and did all in their power to alleviate the sufferings of the unfortunate persons, but at last accounts they are both lying in a critical condition.... The trial of Rufus L. Larrabee of Danville, Me., was begun at Lewiston on Friday. This man is believed to be the author of the repeated malicious butcheries of horses and cattle in that region perpetrated last Spring. Six cattle and a horse were stabbed in one barn in one night, and this was immediately followed up by several similar slaughters in the neighborhood. In September last a horse and a mare belonging to Mr. John Miller were stabbed and killed under such circumstances as led to the arrest and arraignment of Larrabee. The testimony bears chiefly upon the malicious and revengeful disposition of the defendant, and shows that he had made frequent threats against Miller for his activity in bringing him to trial upon a former charge of burglary. Larrabee is described as a man of about 23 years of age, sandy hair, with a light sandy mustache, sandy complexion, keen-eyed, with long, slightly hooked nose....A fire occurred in Philadelphia on Wednesday morning, in the extensive grain commission warehouse of Allen & Davis, North Broad-st., which was entirely destroyed. Loss $40,000; insured for $20,000, mainly in New-York and Eastern companies. Several buildings were damaged, one person losing his life.... On the 11th inst. Lieut. Egbert Olcott of the 25th United States Infantry shot dead private King of the same regiment, 12 miles from Yorktown, Va., while driving a Government team, containing the Lieutenant and two friends. The difficulty arose from the party insisting upon King allowing a negro to act as driver, ending in Olcott shooting King through the head. In consequence of conflicting rumors the military authorities urgently requested the circumstances to be withheld until a Court of Inquiry could investigate it; this being done, the Court is engaged in preparing a report for transmission to Washington, but the decision so far is kept secret.... The Protestant Episcopal Church at Rye, N. Y., known as Christ Church, was totally destroyed by fire on Friday night. Nothing was left but the stone wall and tower. The church was one of the oldest in the State, and was for many years under the charge of the late P. S. Chauncey, D. D. Not long since the edifice was rebuilt. The present Rector of the parish is the Rev. Mr. Alsop. How the fire originated has not been developed....The Parish Church of St. Agatha, Lothiniere, Canada East, was totally destroyed by fire on Sunday. The church was insured for $4,000....The State of California was visited by a terrible gale on the 18th inst., prostrating telegraph wires in every direction, and causing great damage by floods and winds. A number of casualties occurred among the shipping in the harbor of San Francisco. The steamtug Columbia was sunk and several small sailing crafts were capsized, while quite a number of large vessels were injured. They also had a slight shock of an earthquake the same day, which was felt severely at Sacramento and Stockton. A Leavenworth dispatch states that a sergeant and five soldiers of Co. D, 7th Cavalry, from Fort Riley, went to Ogden City in search of deserters. The Sergeant stationed a guard around a house, with orders to let no one in. He then attempted to outrage the woman of the house, who was alone. The cries of her children aroused her husband and brother, at work in a field near by, and they came to her assistance. The Sergeant foiled, ordered the husband shot, and the order was carried out by one of the guards, who killed the husband. The citizens armed and fought the soldiers, wounding two and capturing the squad. They are now in the hands of the civil authorities....The store of Wm. Cochrane & Co., No. 324 Walnut-st., Philadelphia, was broken into on Friday night, the brick fire-proof safe dug into, and railroad and Government securities carried off to the amount of over $94,000....The Congregational Church in North Glastenbury, Conn., the Rev. Mr. Cheesbro, pastor, was totally destroyed by fire, between 3 and 4 o'clock, on the 22d. Nothing was saved. The loss will reach $15,000, of which $5,500 was insured. The fire is supposed to have caught from the furnace....A terrific fire occurred at Vicksburg, Miss., on the 23d inst., destroying over one hundred buildings, rendering that number of families homeless. Two white children and four negroes perished in the flames. Six negroes were killed by accident. The origin of the fire was the result of carelessness in a bar-room.

OBITUARY.

Alex. Hamilton Hays, a printer, well-known throughout the United States, but especially so in New-Orleans, died in the latter city several days ago. He was born in Gettysburg, Penn., about the year 1806. Choosing the profession of printer, he was first employed in Philadelphia, but afterward went to New-Orleans to become foreman of *The Picayune* newspaper. He left the office of *The Picayune* to become one of the founders of *The Delta*. After that paper was established, the proprietors separated, and a portion of them, with Mr. Hayes, established *The Crescent*. *The Crescent* of to-day is the revival of that paper of which Mr. Hayes was an original proprietor. He acted as foreman to both *The Delta* and *The Crescent*. In 1850 *The Crescent* was transferred to other owners, and Mr. Hayes took up that wandering life, which continued to his death. He went to California, and thence to Japan and China and back again to California, which State he left on the breaking out of the war. He made his way overland to Texas, where he resided during the Rebellion. A few weeks ago he was invited back to *The Picayune* office by the proprietors, but he died the day after landing in New-Orleans. He stood high in his profession, and was esteemed by all who knew him. The New-Orleans Typographical Society paid appropriate homage to his remains. ....Lieut. David R. Porter of Meadville, Pa., of the U. S. Army, died at Brownsville, Texas, on the 28th ult., of yellow fever....J. Frederick Marsh of Boston, formerly connected with the Press of that city, and more recently one of the State Bank Commissioners, died suddenly on Thursday, from the rupture of a blood vessel....Stephen Elliott, D. D., the Bishop of Georgia, died on Friday evening....Prof. Henry Vethake, for many years Provost of the University of Pennsylvania, died at his residence in Philadelphia on Sunday last, aged 75 years. He filled, during the closing years of his life, the post of Professor in the Polytechnic College. He was born and educated in Europe. On his arrival in this country he filled a position as Professor of Mathematics, first in Princeton College and next in Dickenson College, from which he passed to a corresponding Professorship in Philadelphia. He was the author of an interesting work on "The Principles of Political Economy," published in the year 1838....The Portuguese Minister, J. C. Figanière e Morão, the oldest member of the diplomatic corps resident in this city, died on Monday, at the residence of his son, in Brooklyn, aged 68 years.

THE FENIANS.

At Sweetsburg, C. E., on Friday, Thomas Madden and Terence McDonald, two of the accused Fenians was found guilty of levying war against Her Majesty, and sentenced to be hanged on the 15th of February next. The Judge in passing sentence betrayed much emotion, but the prisoner heard him throughout unmoved, and smiled when the Judge had concluded. In the case of T. Smith, the jury were unable to agree.....President Roberts of this city, having issued an appeal to the brotherhood for funds to supply the Fenian prisoners in Canada with a Christmas dinner, a letter has been published in answer to it, signed by Richard Bloss Lynch and Father McMahon, in behalf of their fellow prisoners, declining any such assistance, considering it humiliating to their feelings, and that they will not receive any assistance from a body by whom they have been heretofore neglected.

THE INDIANS.

Gov. R. C. McCormick of Arizona is now on a visit to San Francisco, at the request of the citizens of the central portion of Arizona, to confer with Gens. McDowell and Halleck as to the measures necessary to be taken to protect the people of that section from the continuous outrages by Indians, and to keep open the post and military roads of that Territory....In the fight with the Sioux Indians near Fort Phil. Kearney, Dec. 6, Lieut. H. S. Bingham, 2d United States Cavalry, and Sergeant Bowers, 18th Infantry, were killed, and Sergeant Aldridge and four privates of the 18th Infantry were wounded.... *The Idaho Times* says Indians have made a raid between Boise City and Owyhee. A wagon train in charge of six teamsters was attacked and five of them killed, one only making his escape. The stock were driven off after plundering the train, and doing all the mischief they could. *The Silver City Bulletin* says that the Indians had attacked another train, killed and scalped Frank McCoy, teamster, wounded several, robbed all the wagons, cut the ferry loose, and are committing all sorts of depredations. ....The Indian Commissioners sent by the Indian Department to confer with tribes in Kansas have appointed a grand council to be held in Kansas City. There has been no difficulty with any but the Kickapoos, who refuse to leave in a body.

NEW-YORK CITY.

On the 18th, about 4½ o'clock p. m., a fire broke out in the basement of the New Bowery Theater, and in a short time afterward the edifice was completely destroyed. The origin of the fire is unknown, but it is generally supposed to have been the work of an incendiary, as, according to the Stage Manager's statement, no fire should have been in the building at the time. The building was the property of James R. Whiting, and was valued at $75,000, upon which, it is said, there is little or no insurance. The contents, valued at $50,000, belonged to J. W. Lingard and were totally destroyed. The insurance upon his loss is said to be very light. Three frame shanties on Elizabeth-st. were completely demolished by the falling walls, while serious injury was inflicted upon other adjacent buildings by fire and water. The total loss will probably reach $200,000, upon which there is only a small insurance....The annual meeting of the Association for the Advancement of Science and Art was held at the Cooper Institute on Monday evening, Dec. 17. A report was read by Prof. L. D. Gale, showing the successful operation of the Association during the past year, many valuable papers having been read and interesting subjects discussed. Professor Agassiz has been engaged to deliver a course of six lectures the present Winter. The following officers were elected for 1867: John H. Griscom, President; E. Hamilton Davis, Alfred W. Craven, Charles P. Kirkland, S. J. Prime, Vice-Presidents; Leonard D. Gale, General Secretary; Robert M. C. Graham, Foreign Corresponding Secretary; C. F. [illegible], Domestic Secretary; Chrys. Y. Wemple, Treasurer; John Disturnell, Librarian.... Dr. Harris made his usual report of the weekly mortality in this city on Monday, in which he says: "The Coroners of New-York have rendered verdicts upon FOURTEEN PERSONS BURNED TO DEATH. We place the record of this remorseless burning in the list of *accidents*; but for the nine, dead whose remains were found after the fire in Division-st., and for the *five* others who perished on the premises that were burned by kerosene at No. 568 Second-ave., a later generation and wiser laws will hereafter hold the people and the laws of our day guilty of homicide. The Superintendent of Unsafe Buildings avows that the laws of the State are found impotent against the evils that are making funeral pyres of crowded tenant-houses, and a thousand shopkeepers to-day rejoice in the absence of any law to prevent them from storing and handling most inflammable fluids in the stores and cellars under the over-filled habitations of every avenue. In the several conflagrations by gross carelessness last week there perished in all 21 helpless persons. Will the sad lesson go unheeded?" The number of deaths in the city for the week ending [illegible] were 424; of whom 105 were men, 110 women [illegible] and 102 girls....One of the ocean yachts [illegible] American Congress at 0:20 o'clock on [illegible] the 15th inst., heading eastward, under a [illegible] A terrible gale was blowing at [illegible] snow storm in progress, and the wind was [illegible] trial of Francisco Vella Segara, the alleged [illegible] murder of Otero, over a year ago, ended [illegible] jury returned a verdict of not guilty.... [illegible] meeting of the Board of Health held on [illegible] Sanitary Superintendent, reported [illegible] recent burning of the ferry-boat Idaho, [illegible] that the appliances on board the boat [illegible] fire were insufficient, and also that the [illegible] on board was not equal to such an [illegible] Board passed a resolution directing that [illegible] against the Ferry Company for the [illegible] endangered life.

SOUTHERN NEWS.

CONDITION OF THE SOUTH.

[illegible] *New-Orleans Tribune* publishes an article in which it says [illegible] the Committee had scarcely been appointed before [illegible] attempt was made by the Rebel authorities to influence [illegible] them. The following is an extract:

"The [illegible] Council passed a resolution to direct Mayor Monroe to welcome them and treat them. The City Hall was tendered for the sittings of the Committee. Witnesses, coming to give in their evidence, would thereby be well known to our police. They would have to pass between two rows of these very policemen they met at the Mechanics' Institute, and all that intimidation could do, would have been brought to bear against them. The Committee at the City Hall would be, in some way, under the control of the city authorities. So that the device of the Mayor and his councils was calculated, at once, to influence the Committee and to intimidate the witnesses to be heard in the investigation. We are credibly informed that the courtesies of the city authorities have already been declined; and this was certain in advance. The United States Custom-House is the place named for holding the sittings of the Committee of Investigation. The Mayor is one of the individuals over the conduct of whom the Committee will sit in judgment. He is one of the accused. And it is that man, that accused, that you send to extend the hand of fellowship and proffer his protection to his very judges! Such an indignity was never offered, at any time or in any country, to any magistrates of any nation whatever."

When the Investigating Committee arrived in New-Orleans, they were waited upon by a Committee of the Common Council, who tendered them the use of rooms in the City Hall, but the offer was declined. The Committee decided to carry on their investigations at the St. Louis Hotel, and commenced operations on the 22d inst. Quite a number of witnesses have been examined. The Committee are to work night and day to have the report ready at the opening of Congress. All who are connected with the Committee are sworn to secrecy....In the Virginia Legislature a bill has been passed appropriating $30,000 for the purchase of limbs for maimed and indigent Confederate soldiers of the State....Attorney-General Bowden of Virginia, on last Friday, in the Supreme Court of the United States, moved for leave to file a bill asking for process in the name of Virginia against West Virginia, claiming Berkeley and Jefferson Counties as belonging to Virginia, for the purpose of asserting the jurisdiction of Virginia over those counties. Virginia proposes to bring the suit, we learn, by a bill in Chancery.... Capt. Craig of the Veteran Reserves and Bureau Agent has been arrested and committed to jail by Judge Ireland and the civil authorities of Guadaloupe County, Texas, for destroying the bonds given for the appearance of his predecessor before the Civil Court. Craig acted under the orders of Gen. Heintzelman. Gen. Griffin has demanded his release, and upon the sheriff refusing to deliver him up, the United States cavalry surrounded the jail and took him out. He is now discharging his duties under a protection of a guard of the 17th Infantry....The Military Commission at Richmond, convened for the trial of Dr. Watson of Rockbridge for the murder of a freedman, was dissolved on the 2d by order of the President, and the prisoner discharged. The order was made on the Supreme Court decision....A St. Louis dispatch of the 18th inst. stated that petitions were being circulated in Lafayette and Jackson Counties, asking Gen. Hancock, the Departmental Commander, to put a stop to the proceedings of the State Militia. The Radical organ in Kansas City had protested against quartering troops in Jackson County as unnecessary, though admitting that Rebel desperadoes cannot be convicted under Conservative rule. Gen. Grant, before leaving St. Louis on the 19th, sent a company of United States troops to protect the bushwhackers from the militia, but on the 24th rescinded the order.... The Common Council of St. Louis, which is strongly Conservative, has rejected all the appointments made by the Radical Mayor, and on Wednesday filled all the city offices with Conservatives. The Legislature will probably undo this work immediately....The Congressional excursion party arrived at Chattanooga on the 23d. They spent the day in reviewing the battle-field and National Cemetery and taking an excursion down the river. During the river trip Ben Wade spoke at length on reconstruction questions, two-thirds of his hearers being rank Conservatives and Rebels. The party is treated with distinguished consideration by everybody. A delegation from the City Council of Nashville, over half of them ex-Rebels, arrived here last night to tender the hospitalities of the city to the distinguished visitors. Gen. Howard is not neglecting the interests of the Bureau in his journey.....Col. Benford, commanding the U. S. military forces in Tennessee, prevented the Sheriff of Raleigh from inflicting the punishment of flogging on the person of a Freedman. Judge Fowle ordered the indictment of all the military officers engaged in the affair.

THE FREEDMEN.

A very important movement is on foot looking to the education of the leading minds of the black race in this country, especially among the freedmen. The National Association for the Education of Colored Ministers and Teachers, chartered by Congress last Winter, has this work in hand, leaving the work of establishing common schools for primary education entirely to those societies now conducted for that purpose. Already ten schools are established by this Association in various States, and are designed to receive colored ministers and teachers regardless of sectarian or party connections. Thus far the Baptists, who number largely among the Freedmen, are strongly enlisted in this work, and other bodies are moving in the same direction.... W. H. Brisbaine, a South Carolina planter, has recently given a very valuable plantation to this association worth about $20,000 on which it is proposed to establish an Institute; and the Executive Committee, out of respect to Peter Cooper, of New-York, for his devotion to the education of the poor, contemplate naming it "The Cooper Institute of South Carolina." The Rev. Dr. Parker of Massachusetts, the Rev. Mr. Conway of New-York, Dr. Turney, Z. Richards, M. D. of Washington, and other well-known gentlemen are active in promoting this movement. The following indorsement will demonstrate how the objects of this association are appreciated by distinguished gentlemen North and South:

The undersigned cordially commend this Association to the confidence of the American people and earnestly hope it will be amply supported in the work elevating the millions of Freedmen in our land.

O. O. Howard, Major-General; Josiah Quincy, Boston; Thomas J. Durant, La.; Benj. F. Flanders, New-Orleans; A. J. Hamilton, Texas; H. G. Lane, U. S. Senator; Lorenzo Sherwood, Texas; Richard Yates, U. S. Senator; A. E. Burnside, Governor of Rhode Island; the Hon. M. J. Saffold, Alabama; John Eaton, jr., Memphis; Jos. R. Hawley, Governor of Connecticut; Wm. R. Marshall, Governor of Minnesota; Jas. Harlan, U. S. Senator; the Hon. James Speed, Kentucky; E. M. Gregory, Major-General U. S. A.; the Hon. Horace Maynard, Tennessee; Geo. H. Williams, U. S. Senator from Oregon; the Hon. Geo. W. Paschal, Texas; Rufus Saxton, Brevet Major-General U. S. A.; Peter Cooper, New-York.

The Rev T. W. Conway, formerly Assistant Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau in Louisiana, has been elected District Secretary of this Association for the States of New-York, New-Jersey and Pennsylvania, and enters upon his new duties at once....Arrangements are being made by the colored people of Norfolk and Portsmouth, for the celebration of the anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation. Mayor Ludlow of Norfolk, has assured them he would see that they were not molested. He does not believe that there is any disposition on the part of the citizens to interfere with them so long as they are orderly. The arrangements embrace services in the church and a procession.

CANADA.

The Fire Relief Committee of Quebec have been discussing the best way of applying the fund. Some favored retaining a large portion of the money to help the sufferers to rebuild their houses, but as a great deal of suffering still exists, a grant of money was made for their immediate relief....Government has refused the application of the Board of Trade for an inquiry as to the loss of the steamer Queen Victoria, on the ground that the loss took place in the open sea, at a time when there were a number of other shipwrecks....Another bill has been filed in Chancery against the Bank of Upper Canada. It contains 21 clauses, and sets forth that Robert Cassels became Manager of the bank at a salary of $10,000 for a certain term of years which have not yet expired. That securities were given him by way of pledge for salary. That he was bound by the agreement to devote his time and services exclusively to the affairs of the Bank. That he had violated the provisions of the agreement in entering into an agreement with Glyns, Mills & Co., London, to collect and secure the debts due to them by the bank, for which he received a certain percentage. That he was concerned in other transactions, receiving large sums by way of commission. Complainants submit that Cassels has forfeited all claim to remuneration as the servant of the bank, and seek that the mortgage or pledge of security given him be declared void; that an account be taken of the moneys Cassels received for services other than those connected with the bank, and the amount set off against the sum due and to become due to him by agreement.... The expenditures in Canada for military purposes since the 1st of January, 1866, have been over two millions of dollars....The amount given by the Canadian Government to the Quebec Relief Fund is $50,000. Another installment of £2,000 has been received through the cable from London, making a total of £21,000 from that city....A subscription has been started in Quebec for the sufferers by the late colliery explosion in England.... A new Company in Montreal, including large capitalists, intend applying to Parliament during its next session to dam the River St. Lawrence at Lachine Rapids, for the purpose of obtaining hydraulic power. The capital projected by the Company is to be $2,000,000....Griffin and Knapp, said to have stolen $250,000 in bonds from the Royal Insurance Company's office in New-York, were arrested in Montreal on Thursday, by the Chief of the Police. Nothing was found about their persons. The prisoners were armed to the teeth, and had been staying at the Ottawa Hotel a few days, accompanied by two women. The case comes off before the Police Magistrate this afternoon. ....*The Three Rivers Journal*, on the authority of the clergy, says no Catholic priest of that place ever saw or knew Surratt.

MEXICO.

A New-Orleans dispatch states that the reason that Minister Campbell and Gen. Sherman did not land at Vera Cruz was because the port was under the rule of Maximilian, and to have disembarked there would have been an informal recognition of a Government that is not known in Washington. Nothing but courtesies passed between the French authorities and the Susquehanna. Gen. Sherman and Minister Campbell visited Monterey on the 9th, and had an interview with Gen. Escobedo, when it was decided that Minister Campbell and Mr. Plumb would start with Escobedo for Monterey to look for Juarez, and Sherman shoved back to the States on the Susquehanna. Ortega and party are at Brownsville, from whence they have again issued two protests relative to their treatment while prisoners, and a card to the people of the United States. Canales and command have left for the interior. Cortinas, who was deprived of his command, has resumed it, and will soon follow. Escobedo and the balance of the troops will also soon depart—Minister Campbell and Mr. Plumb to accompany them....The officers of the Susquehanna say that statements published of civilities of French officers at Vera Cruz was entirely untrue. The vessel was forbidden to approach nearer the city than the Verde Island, and the only intercourse with the French was the message delivered to Mr. Campbell by the officers of the French Navy that if he wanted chains and anchors they would be happy to supply them. Mr. Campbell replied that he stood in no particular need of such articles himself, and he imagined that the United States ships-of-war were generally well supplied with them. Mr. Campbell declares his purpose and expectation to find Juarez within forty days.... Marshal Bazaine has issued a manifesto in answer to Maximilian's determination to remain, stating that in future the French troops would remain perfectly neutral, taking no part in Mexican affairs....A liberal force had attacked San Luis Potosi and was defeated with heavy loss....On the night of the 4th inst. Gen. Rodriguez made a dash with 500 men into Orizaba, and captured 300 mules. He could as easily have captured Maximilian and the whole garrison....A public demonstration was made at Orizaba after the Emperor had declared his determination to remain, the populace parading the streets, and shouting "Death to the French!" "Death to the Americans!"....A special dispatch from New-Orleans dated the 19th, states that information had that day been received at department headquarters to the effect that Marshal Bazaine has given notice that all the French will have left Mexico before the 18th of April....The success of the efforts being made by the Church party to supply Maximilian with funds to carry on his Government is at least very doubtful.

FOREIGN NEWS.

GREAT BRITAIN.

A London dispatch of the 23d inst. says, that "the Fenian troubles in Ireland have entirely abated. The Island is tranquil, and confidence has returned to the people." ....A Berlin dispatch has been received in London, which says that Maximilian is now actually a prisoner....The Paris correspondence of *The Times* says it is now generally admitted that the object of Gen. Castelneau's mission to Mexico was to induce Maximilian to abdicate.... An Alexandria dispatch states that John H. Surratt has been put on board the United States gunboat Swatara, which has sailed for this country....*The Times* of the 24th considers the affairs of the Holy See in a critical condition, in spite of the tranquil appearance.

FRANCE.

As a manifestation of the cordial relations existing between France and the United States, the farewell dinner of Minister Bigelow on the 21st was a very successful affair. Mr. Kellogg, in his speech on that occasion, declared he was glad to say that the traditional friendship between the two nations had been restored.... Some of the press of Paris are very severe in their comments upon the Message of President Johnson.....It is rumored that owing to the unpopularity of the recently proposed scheme for the reorganization of the French army, it will either be withdrawn or greatly modified....The *Moniteur de Soir* says all the steps have been taken for the evacuation of Mexico by the French troops *en masse*....Gen. Dix presented his credentials to the Emperor on the 23d inst. After some remarks by the General, the Emperor said he hoped no misunderstanding would arise to disturb the friendly relations which prevail between the two countries.

AUSTRIA.

It is rumored that a strong feeling exists in the Austrian Army in favor of making Maximilian Emperor of Austria ....The Upper House of the Hungarian Diet has agreed to the address to the Emperor of Austria recently adopted by the Lower Chamber....The Diet of Croatia has resolved in favor of a separate administration.....It is reported from Vienna that the Austrian Cabinet, in despair of satisfying the demands of Hungary, propose to give all the various nationalities composing the Empire the liberty to agree upon a general scheme of reconstruction....In the Hungarian Diet on Thursday, the Tavernicus (chief officer of administration) announced that the Emperor had resolved to restore the Constitution to Hungary.

PRUSSIA.

The Upper House of the Prussian Chambers has agreed to the budget as amended by the House of Deputies, and has also adopted the bills to annex the Duchies to the Kingdom of Prussia....Count Bismarck, by the advice of his physicians, has relinquished the Presidency of the Conference of the North German States in favor of Savigny....The German Parliament will be chosen by universal suffrage. The Federal army is to be under the command of Prussia.

ITALY.

It is said that the Pope is satisfied with the tone of the speech made by the King at the opening of the Italian Parliament. The National Committee of Rome have issued a proclamation advising the people to await calmly the hour of certain triumph. The first conference for the arrangement of the relations between the Holy See and the Kingdom of Italy has been held......It is again reported that Menebrea is to be reappointed Minister of Italy at the Imperial Court of Vienna....The Minister of Finance reports a deficiency in his budget of 200,000,000 francs.

TURKEY.

Advices from Candia state that fighting still continues there, and the Turks had strengthened their blockading fleet around the Island.

BRAZIL.

Advices from the seat of war up to Nov. 9 have been received at London. On the 30th of October the Paraguayans, with 10 battalions of infantry, supported by cavalry and artillery, during a heavy rain and dense fog, assaulted the same position which they lost on the 6th of July, but were repulsed, leaving 500 dead on the field. As the Brazilians were well protected by their defenses, their loss was comparatively small. The United States gunboat Shamokin obtained leave from the Brazilian Admiral, although given under protest, to pass through the blockade, and landed Mr. Washburn at Curupaity, after which she immediately returned. Both sides agreed to an armistice for this purpose.

THE FREEDMEN'S BUREAU.

REPLY TO THE CHARGE AGAINST ITS MANAGEMENT.

Gen. Howard's letter to the President, in reply to the investigation of the Freedmen's Bureau by Gens. Steedman and Fullerton, dated August 21, 1866, is long and thorough. We quote the more important passages:

I now come to by far the most important part of what the Inspectors have to say—the summing up of their conclusions after four months' inspection of the Bureau, in which they assert that "there is an entire absence of system or uniformity in its constitution." They have never asked me for a word of information with reference to records, reports and orders.

They have made no examination of any office, and asked no reason for any action taken. The records or information they desired that could not be found in the offices of the South may be here. What would be the result if they should make a general inspection of the Quartermaster, Commissary, or other Departments in the same way? Those officers who have been relieved, or were beyond their reach, are supposed to have made improper dispositions of all records or papers connected with their offices.

There is not a Bureau in Washington with a more complete set of reports, books and records, &c., than can be produced at this office for inspection at any time. They attempt to prove their assertion by the statement that in one State its officers exercised judicial powers; in one adjoining all cases are referred to civil authorities, while in a third State Bureau officers convert the cases and turn them over to military courts. Their own inspection reports will refute this. In the States of Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama, Florida, Virginia and North Carolina, Bureau agents do not exercise judicial powers of any kind, and in the other States the power exercised by the officers of the Bureau are modified by the feelings and conduct of the people toward the freedmen. They admit there is great difference in this feeling of whites toward the blacks. What other principle more uniform is it possible to adopt than to regulate the power of agents of the Bureau by the disposition and conduct of the people, favoring them as they approximate equal justice?

It will be seen, by referring to the regulations of this Bureau, circular 5, series 65, approved by yourself, that a gradual transfer of jurisdiction was implied, and just as soon as practicable we have made trial of the civil courts in every State. I have sought the provost courts, as well as the civil, to relieve me of the exercise of judicial powers.

Bureau officers have never attempted to regulate wages, and no order ever existed making any regulations on the subject. Demand and supply controlled this matter. Of course wages, manner of payment, and all the questions entering into the labor subject differed widely throughout the South, and, from the nature of things, could not be uniform.

Although importuned from all parts of the South to take action about wages, I steadily refused. The following has been the standing order for all the States: "No fixed rates of wages will be prescribed for a district; but, in order to regulate fair wages in individual cases, agents should have in mind minimum rates for their own guidance."

Assistant commissioners are required to furnish me with copies of all orders and circulars issued by them, and a close examination of all they have written on the subject fails to produce any attempt, upon their part, to regulate wages or contracts. The freedmen and employer have been left to manage the matter for themselves.

They say that it was impossible to examine the accounts of Bureau Quartermasters, as they were compelled to take personal statements, &c., yet admit that they examined the accounts of Gen. H. M. Whittlesey, of Mississippi, and found them all correct and complete. Of course his predecessor was entitled to his retained papers, and one complete set is on file in this office. They can find out how much money was collected from every legitimate and proper source in Mississippi by calling on me and asking for such information.

They say this system of receiving and disbursing money is loose. The same blanks, forms, reports and regulations used in the Quartermaster's Department have been adopted by this Bureau as far as possible, and are as complete a check upon Bureau officers in the discharge of their duties as is imposed upon officers of the Quartermaster's Department who originate and disburse funds.

They next refer to the case of Col. Reno's report of the deficit of $7,000 in Louisiana, and Lieut. Foster, who is said to be a defaulter. It cannot be possible that Gen. Fullerton, who, as one of the Bureau officers, assisted in bringing this matter to light, can fail to remember that this subject has been undergoing an investigation for the last six months. The whole matter originated before the Bureau was in existence, and has been brought to light and prosecuted by the Assistant Commissioner in order to fix the guilt upon the proper persons and secure their punishment.

It is not justice to the officers of the Bureau to charge them with crimes that were committed against the freedmen in time prior to its organization, and to suppress dates and the location of grave charges so as to shift the responsibility upon those not guilty.

The Inspectors next admit the necessity of the Bureau last year, and acknowledge that it did much good for all classes. If this be true, it is bad logic to condemn the workings of the Bureau for mistakes and errors that were committed last year, and more particularly for the year before its organization. Nearly every charge made against officers in this final report is for acts of last year, and upon which these officers have already been called to account by the Bureau or the War Department.

Planters refused to employ freedmen at all unless they would agree to remain one year. Of course freedmen were driven into those obligations by the same force that compelled them to work for low wages. Any one who will remember the current news of the day, as reported during the months of last January and February, will remember that all the power that capital can exercise was brought to bear upon the laborers of the South to make them contract.

The principles that apply to wages induced the present contract system. I would have been glad to have adopted precisely the same methods of regulating labor as obtained in the Northern States, but neither the planters nor the freedmen were yet prepared for this.

Planters complained that freedmen under a free system of labor would not work till the crop was saved, but would remain only till they obtained money to keep them a short time, and then desert the crops at a most critical period. Nearly every Southern State has provided laws by which the freedmen are to be contracted with for.

I cannot agree with the Inspectors altogether as to a complete revolution in the sentiment of the Southern people which insures protection sufficient to the freedmen, when United States officers and freedmen are murdered, and the freedmen abused and mutilated, as is reported by the Inspectors themselves. * * *

They say the good feelings of the whites toward the blacks are owing to their interest in securing their labor. This I regard as insufficient security when trusted to absolutely, without some other principle—*e. g.* the guaranty of equal laws. For years slaveholders have deemed compulsory measures the best security for labor.

The Inspectors declare that "the Bureau has been, in the aggregate, productive of more harm than good," and give as their reasons, substantially, the reliance upon it of the negroes and their consequent distrust of the property-holders, and the *provocation* of espionage, creating mutual suspicion and bitterness.

I deny the whole statement. It is not founded upon fact, but upon theories constantly put forth by the enemies of good order. A few bad agents have been sent, and have, doubtless, done much harm, yet this Bureau agency has been mediatorial and pacific as a whole. It has relieved this very suspicion and bitterness that existed when it was first organized. Riots, murders, and wicked deeds have recently sprung up, but these are in no way initiated or recognized by the officers of the Government.

I claim, and the facts will prove it, that the Bureau has labored successfully to elevate wages and defended the interests of the freedmen in their contracts, being constantly resisted by the inertia of the peculiar opinions of Southern property-holders. The evils in the contracts will disappear just as soon as free labor shall have a permanent foothold under its necessary protection of equal laws properly executed.

From the course pursued by the Inspectors, I suspect the object of the inspection, as they understood it, was to bring the Freedmen's Bureau into contempt before the country, and to do this they have endeavored to prove maladministration.

On the contrary, I am prepared to prove to yourself or any other candid mind, that I have fulfilled the trust you committed to me with care, conscientiousness and faithfulness; I have obeyed your orders and instructions, making no other objections than those I made to yourself and the Secretary of War; that my system has been a thorough one, and as complete and uniform as was possible in an institution intended to be temporary and to meet a transient necessity. *Could the Freedmen's Bureau be now administered with your full and hearty sanction*, and with the coöperation of the other branches of the Government, it would fulfill the objects of its creation in a short time, and be made, while it existed, to conduce to industry, enlightenment and justice for all classes of the people. The work committed to it may doubtless be done by the army, without a bureau, but not with much less expense. *Yet, if the Government would keep good faith with its new-made citizens*, some sort of a United States agency must be maintained in the Southern States until society shall have become more settled than it now is.

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THE A[illegible] SUN.

BY JOHN A. DORGAN.

There was a wise magician long ag[illegible]
So long his name has faded qui[illegible]
And but his story lingers, like th[illegible],
When Winter has departed, [illegible] away,
Of the warm sun shrinking co[illegible] snow
In spots where no man co[illegible] from the ray
Yet was he famous in h[illegible] to lone decay,
And at his spells the [illegible]th with rude tread;
Trembled the [illegible] distant day,
[illegible] sun grew pale with dread,
dead [illegible] around, and shuddering rose the

An angel and a fiend on each await,
And with impatient patience strive to gain,
With words of hate-like love and love-like hate,
To virtue or to sin; but of the twain,
His Angel had departed, long disdain
Having outworn fond hope; and by the ear
Of the unshrinking sage did now remain
Only the fiend, and whispered words of fear,
Such as beseems not me to tell, nor you to hear.

A passionless and fearless intellect,
Devoid of reverence, devoid of doubt,
But questioning still with purpose circumspect
Nature and Man, he found their secrets out;
Perilous secrets! Such as men have sought,
And found perchance, but which are secrets still;
Idly they fled from his persistent thought;
Idly they stood at bay; his patient will
Conquered them one by one, and turned to uses ill.

The ancient mysteries in numbers hidden—
Of gestures, glances, tones and syllables,
The subtle art—knowledge which is forbidden—
The thought which from afar its slave compels—
Dominion over life and death—and spells
To read the past and make the future plain—
All these were his: yet, as a heart that swells
Silently till its chords are rent in twain,
He labored eagerly, with what unceasing pain!

Lost in deep thought methinks I see him now,
In sable mantle clad, with troubled air,
Writhing his bloodless lips, knitting his brow
So high and pallid, girt with raven hair;
Round haughty mouth, and over forehead fair,
And all about his sad and solemn eyne,
So terrible with their unfaltering stare,
A cobweb tracery of wrinkles fine,
Of cunning and of power a world in every line.

A strange room crowded with things strange, and filled
With vapor, so that all within it seems
To waver to and fro, and one unskilled
Might deem the sight the sport of sickly dreams,
Ready to vanish wholly; ruddy gleams
Through iron doors the fire of furnace fierce;
With sickly odors faint the dense air teems;
Around are astrolabes and planispheres,
And charts and parchments writ in unknown characters.

And floating in the murky atmosphere,
Now visible, and now withdrawn from sight,
Uncertain forms and presences of fear,
The unaccustomed soul may well affright;
And burning with a pale but steady light,
Undying lamps around a mirror fair,
As round some holy shrine are gleaming bright,
And the stern sorcerer, with troubled air,
Is gazing in the glass. Oh, gaze not with him there!

Therein, perchance, how Death beside him stood
With lifted dart he saw, nor shook to see;
And comprehended whence the altered mood
Of his dread servitors with stifled glee
Who labored at his bidding busily,
Knowing they should unpunished soon depart;
Sadly he smiled, and murmured "It may be;
"I tire of power: I weary of my art:
"Well may my thoughts scale heaven, so empty is my heart!"

Now was there sorrow in the spheres on high—
Such sorrow as men feel, who from the shore
Behold some stately ship swept helplessly
Upon the rending rocks the gale before,
And see in fancy all the ruin o'er,
And hear, ere yet she strikes, the death shrieks borne
Upon the whistling wind, piercing the roar
Of ocean, and each other eye forlorn
A moment, shuddering, mute, with pain and pity torn.

Then comes the thought, if effort may avail
To save and succor; and the hero's eye,
As if with joy, with power that cannot fail
Out flames, and kindles all that be thereby;
"Courage!" he cries, "Lo, none of these shall die!
"Even thus shall they be saved!" and leads the way;
So Uriel looked: so spake: and the sad sky
Grew bright and brighter, as at dawn of day—
Gone is the loathly dream; the horror past away.

"Glory to God!" Unto the heavenly hosts
Thus Uriel spake—the Angel of the Sun—
"Rejoice! Rejoice through all your starry coasts!
Though of this mortal's life the sands be run
Almost, his spirit is not yet undone;
May still be saved; and this will I essay;
Though his last hour now strikes, he shall be won,
Snatched from the malice of the fiends away,
In the great name of Him, whom serve we night and day."

'Twas night! Alone the awful wizard sate;
Before him open lay a volume old:
Upon his hand and on his eyes a weight
Seemed pressing, as he mused of what was told
In those worn pages bound with tarnished gold;
He shut and clasped the book; and in his chair
Of carven ebony to rest did fold
His arms, his eyelids closed, with weary air,
And like a careless child did sit and slumber there.

He shall awake no more: there shall his corse
Be found at morn, but whither shall have fled
His spirit! Haste, ye fiends without remorse!
Drown him in dreamless sleep, lest when the dread
Moment arrive another claim the dead!
Thou, too, oh Uriel! hasten from thy sphere,
And turn to mockery the toils they spread,
Saving that kingly spirit which they fear:
Haste, for the night flies fast! Haste, for the time is near!

Swift as an arrow loosened from the string,
Or as a star that falls adown the sky,
The Archangel came; and every guilty thing
Fled howling, yet afar with eager eye
Pausing to watch the sequel: they rely
Upon the iron heart of that stern sage
Their irresistible enemy to defy—
In their behalf 'gainst his own weal to wage
Triumphant strife. In vain their folly as their rage!

A strange light on the wizard's forehead fell;
His stern and haughty features softer grow;
Beside him stood the angel Uriel,
Trembling with pity like a drop of dew;
More pure; more bright; with many a diamond hue
Fitfully flashing; and the chamber old
Grew glorious with a radiance none might view
With eyes undazzled, none its source behold,
And calm with holy calm which must remain untold.

Hushed in deep sleep the necromancer lay;
Lost to the past, and to the present blind;
Ignorant that his life should cease ere day,
Heedless of that bright presence, he reclined:
Rested like serpent coiled his potent mind,
Which fast and far could dart its supple thought;
Motionless all. Strange slumber that did bind
That restless brain: methinks some demon wrought
Its web intense, that he might sleep and waken not.

Might waken not, and so perchance repent:
The angel smiled, and o'er the visage pale
Of that lost mortal a swift change there went;
As when some cloud that all the morn did vail
The sun, goes by at last, and hill and dale
Bask of a sudden in that noontide dawn,
So o'er the sage's heart a dream did sail
With silver wings, and ere it was withdrawn,
Recalled the purpose high of days forever gone.

Returned the fervor and the fire of old;
Again with noble yearnings throbbed his breast;
All that he might have done did he behold
Achieved and perfected—a vision blest!
The words which he did utter would not rest,
But sang forever in the future's ears,
Like some far cataract; his deeds possessed,
Like the great sun, the sky of after years,
And led afar through space to some high goal the spheres.

In vain, in vain, oh subtle Uriel!
The dream thou hast evoked: pursue the thought
That his sealed lips which tremble fain would tell;
Peruse that brow convulsed. "The power I sought,
"I won; if there be good or evil, wrought
Evil and good: let that which must be, be;
I envy not thy bliss; I tremble not
At thought of punishment; for what are we,
The idiot and the wise, but slaves of Destiny?"

"A deeper spell there needs," the angel said,
And called another and a fairer dream—
A dream of love; and the enchanter dread
Thrilled with supremest passion; earth did seem
Transfigured in his rapture; life did gleam
Glorious and grand as in his happy youth;
Like phantoms pallid in the morning beam,
Faded the triumphs of his art, in sooth;
And naught seemed possible save Beauty, Love and Truth.

In vain! In vain! The Angel turned his head;
As the dream faded from his wildered sight,
Came o'er the sorcerer's face a change so dread
Of hate and scorn, and sorrow infinite;
So fire may burn or sudden frosts may blight;
That passion passed; and shuddering, sense-bereft,
With beaded brow, and lips that trembled white,
Unconscious save of pain, the sage it left,
Quivering through all his limbs, like oak by lightning cleft.

Then did the Angel muse; but at the last,
Summoned another dream, and eagerly
His gaze upon the dying Magian cast,
Not void of hope; to whom, it seemed that he
Was once again a child, and at the knee
Of his fond mother knelt, her voice did hear,
And prattling did repeat with faith and glee
The prayer she taught, forgotten many a year:
Down the faint sorcerer's cheek there flowed a scalding tear.

A bell in the dim night pealed far away
Summoning the wizard's soul. A thrill, and then
In ebon chair a pallid corpse he lay.

The Angel of the Sun returned again
Unto his station. And at morning, when
They found the dead enchanter, on his face
There was so sweet a smile, that many men
Marveled thereat, and guessed thereby the grace
Vouchsafed to him, and laid his dust in holy place.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

CALVERT'S FIRST YEARS IN EUROPE.

FIRST YEARS IN EUROPE. By GEORGE H. CALVERT. 12mo. pp. 303. Boston. William V. Spencer.

The fresh and confiding personal notices with which this volume abounds give it the attractions of an autobiography, as well as of an intelligent and singularly suggestive record of foreign travel. The peculiar circumstances, moreover, under which it has been prepared for the press lend it an additional interest. It is founded on the experience of European life at the commencement of a career, which has furnished valuable contributions in various departments to our native literature, and is now enriched with the fruits of many studious and thoughtful years, combining the vivacity of youth with the wisdom of maturity.

Soon after leaving Harvard College in 1823, Mr. Calvert took passage for England with the view of visiting some near family relatives in Belgium, and of pursuing his studies in one of the celebrated German universities which at that time were a favorite resort with many young men of literary aspirations in this country. The vessel in which he sailed was one of the British royal packets which had been taken for himself and suite by Mr. Stratford Canning, then Minister to the United States, who was about to return home, and who had proposed to the father of the young student, intent on foreign lore and foreign lands, that the son should accompany him to England.

Mr. Calvert's description of his first experiences after his arrival on the continent affords some agreeable glimpses of Belgian society and domestic life.

I found myself domesticated in an old chateau, six miles from Antwerp, surrounded with a moat, filled by the tide of the distant Scheldt. There was no longer a draw to the bridge, but at the end of it a heavy iron-clamped portal let you into an open quadrangular court, around which rose the walls, inclosing a roomy, commodious mansion, with a small chapel in one of the towers. Beyond the moat, on all sides were trees, more or less thickly planted, with a view in part to landscape effects. In one direction, just beyond the trees, was a spacious garden; in another, not half a mile distant, a small village, where dwelt the peasants to whom the land was leased. Outside the moat, on the east, ran a straight country road, thickly shaded by trees.

It is an easy life, to saunter down the slope of idleness, plucking flowers that you have not planted; but if you follow it too far, the slope grows barren and steep, to plunge soon into an abyss. Indeed, only at the top, where idleness is temporary relaxation, is it enjoyment; and healthy life instinctively rejects it as a foe. My idleness was made busy by the multifarious novelty about me. There were dinner parties, small and large, where cheerfulness was provided by intimacy, and refinement and elegance by long social culture and the mingling of the sexes, and where the cuisine (as I discovered in later more gustatory years) was most appetizing and delicate. And there was a ball at another chateau, where I was in the midst of numerous kin, of all ages and degrees, running into the dilutions of fourth and fifth cousinship.

The position of the young American Protestant in the bosom of an ancient Catholic family presented many striking contrasts, and when called to mind after a long interval of years, gives occasion to a course of sage moralizing, which throughout the volume is intimately blended with the personal narrative.

A few weeks after my arrival at Antwerp, we moved into town. Beside the academic walks through the Museum, I now had lessons at home in architecture from a professor of that art. I should rather say, I had lessons in the mechanism of the Greek columnar styles. I became acquainted with the external characteristics of the three orders. I learned the shapes and names of dentiles and modillions and moldings, and all about the entablature and its division into architrave, frieze and cornice. But of the life and growth of these members and constituents, and of the column itself, and how it came to be, I learned nothing. The Laws which govern buildings in all their purposes and proportions—how use and beauty may be harmonized, how the idea controls the work, and how only idea can give life to work—of all this there was no word; nor of the relation between the architecture of a people and its mind—its wants and its aspirations.

Now not only the best way, but the only good way, to teach even the very young, is through principles. Children are eager for the why and the wherefore; and the boy who breaks his drum to discover the cause of its sound, is in the widest sense representative. Much earlier than most people are aware, youthful minds not only grasp principles, but take in statements that involve large ideas, and carry the thoughts high and far. The whole they will of course not take in, but enough to be a germ, and a germ that will instinctively feed itself by clasping roots round many particulars. Put a good principle into the mind, and upon it you can hang scores of facts, and series of facts, which without their hold will soon drop out or be effaced.

My Professor was, physiognomically, one of those exceptional men whom one occasionally meets, and more often, perhaps, in continental cities than elsewhere—men who in the mingling together of races and families seem to have been underkneaded, overlooked on the edge of the tray, and come out of the oven marked with singularity. He had much of the Indian's complexion and face, with straight, black, unelectrified hair and pyramidal head, his forehead being much broader at the base across the eyes than where it curved into the coronal region—a shape which excludes, in the man or race in whom it is found, all poetic susceptibility and artistic liveliness. Lucky for him, his architectural ambitions did not outsparkle those of his neighbors. Antwerp was for the time architecturally finished; there was no room there then for creation or invention. To keep the old in repair, or at most to reproduce it, is the limit of a builder's function in a stagnant city, whose glories are in memory rather than in hope.

Had my uncle and the professor taken me to the cathedral; led me down into the vaults; pointed out the deep broad foundations; then built up before my eyes the vast structure, stage by stage, exhibiting to me the high mechanical knowledge displayed in the superposition of such upstretching masses crowned by the gigantic roof; then aroused and enlightened my poetic sensibilities by making me a witness to the marriage of use to grandeur and beauty—the solid walls, through the mystic power of poetic art, standing there before me without heaviness, the lofty, light, upspringing colonnades without weakness—just hinting at the conditions of this union; then educated my perception to the purpose and grace of the manifold details; and then, finally, presented to my now enlarged perception, the whole, inside and out, in all its aërial vastness, its roomy magnificence—had this been done, I should, even in a short series of lessons, have taken in very much of the very essence of architecture. The great building, and with it all building, would have mingled itself in nervous movement, in imposing power, with my higher faculties. I should have carried away vital knowledge, which would have been a light in my mind forever. But for this kind of teaching the teachers are yet few, and from the primary school to the æsthetic academy, routine as method, and memory as means, are more suitable to the capacities of instructors than are lively, confident appeals to the reason and the noble sensibilities.

For such impressive, attractive initiation, my uncle was not disposed or qualified, for he was an accomplished dilettante, not an earnest student of art.

Unless men handle actively the thoughts and institutions which they inherit as a golden bond of power, adding by strenuous invention fresh links to give themselves a purchase on the present and future, the past becomes a tightening halter that strangles their freedom. My professor wore his part of the chain quiescently, passively, unconsciously; nor was my uncle himself—with far higher capabilities—at all aware to what degree he was benumbed by the exanimate air of custom.

The Autumn had worn away; Winter had come; and I was still at Antwerp. The domestication under his childless roof of a fresh full-grown nephew from the new world was an event in the quiet, comparatively vacant, life of my uncle. People who live in industrial inaction on their incomes, and who lack mental force or impulsiveness to create immaterial interests, moral, intellectual, or esthetic, have to daily battle with Time; for Time will kill them if they cannot kill him. To maintain the fight they are obliged—humiliating obligation—to make the prosaic means of life its end; so that meals—purposely prolonged—and dressing, and distant supervision of pecuniary interests, and minor social duties, and exercise, become their occupations, wherewith by the aid of the amusements of visiting, passive reading, small talk, games, cards, tobacco, they fill the vacancy left by sleep. My uncle used tobacco in no form; and cards I never saw in his house.

The recurrent routine of my uncle's day was suddenly broken and enlivened by my arrival. I became at once an object to his intellect and his affections. My heresy did not, as I have intimated, much disturb him individually; for he was a man of good understanding, and although not of large power of sympathy, had lived long enough in amicable contact with persons of variant religious convictions not to feel by habit the absurd unhumanity of that shallow self-righteousness which feeds a spurious piety with the poisoned drippings of arrogance, and, born of conceit and nourished by priest-craft (Protestant as well as Catholic) for its own perverted ends, makes a fallible, and mostly an ignorant and limited individual, ascribe infallibility to his religious conceptions, and pass on all dissentients a fire-freighted anathema.

But amidst the members of an ancient Catholic society, the bricks of whose fabric were molded centuries ago, and the mortar of their present cohesion compounded of traditions and conventionalities, a young American, republican Protestant, though neither forward or demonstrative, was as unfitted as a Gothic spire on an Ionic temple, as intrusive almost as an eel among crabs. The protestantism, the chief source of incongruity, might possibly be wiped out, and with a view to such an end my uncle would have liked to change my route of travel on leaving Antwerp, making it lead to Paris instead of Gottingen. On his hinting this to me, I objected that my father's wish was that I should go to Göttingen. Had the change found favor with myself, he would, I am sure, have written at once to my father recommending it.

On his way from Antwerp to Göttingen, the young traveler passes through the renowned city of Frankfort, which has recently awakened such a universal interest in the civilized world by its forced subjection to the rule of Prussia, and the retrospect of his visit calls forth a train of characteristic reflections with regard to the great poet to whom his subsequent studies have been so largely and so successfully devoted.

Of the transcendent glory of Frankfort among German cities I then had hardly a faint comprehension; for I had not happened to have read—what alone of Goethe was in that day accessible to foreigners—"The Sorrows of Werter," the English translation of which having been made from a loose French one, would stand to the original as would the refuse from the rocky tub of a sluttish washerwoman, stinted in water, to the clear abundant current of a bubbling spring. Goethe was remote and nebulous. The sweet, sightly, succulent ears of his wisdom lay buried to me in the multiplex husks of German verbs, adjectives, nouns, adverbs. Even when, on leaving Germany, I brought away a key to all the riches of a great language, its deepest treasure could only be partially valued; for it is a profound virtue of this poet-sage that his meanings reveal themselves but dimly to the young and the uncultivated. His are pages to delight and enlarge seasoned chastened minds; and in our later years the quiet emanations from his genius still fire in us trains that but for them would have lain latent forever, arousing and refreshing us through commixture of their life with ours, like the rays of an afternoon sun striking upon a line of pictures, that answer their welcome streak with a mellow glow and new exhibitions of character.

From this secluded Olympian hight in Weimar Goethe occasionally descended into the busy frequented flats of his native city. His fellow-townsmen made much of him; for it would be difficult to find a German town, however prosaic its procedures, that would not recognize, even if it could not fully prize, intellectual or esthetic eminence. Goethe, whose mother lived to a ripe old age in Frankfort, and who, in his many-sidedness and clear-sightedness, knew the value of all kinds of activities, enjoyed, no doubt, after a fashion, these visits. In one of his letters to Schiller he draws an illustration from his townsmen which contains a quiet irony on all trading competition. Schiller had written that Herder, in a letter to him, had intimated that he, Schiller, had plagiarized his *Diver* from one Nicholas Pesce. Goethe, writing from Frankfort in August, 1797, thus refers to this part of Schiller's letter: "I heartily pity the old man on the Topfberg, that he is doomed, through God knows what strange temper, to obstruct the path of himself and others on his own ground. There I like a thousand times better the Frankfort bankers, merchants, brokers, traders, Jews, gamblers and jobbers, who at any rate bring somewhat to pass for themselves, although they trip up other people's heels."

Notwithstanding the ennui recorded at the end of my third day at Frankfort, I tarried there through the week "seeing sights," driving into the country, and going to the opera. On Monday noon, the 15th, with a letter of credit on Göttingen and a hundred silver dollars in my pocket, I took passage in the public coach, which traveling day and night, with stops for meals, reached Cassel on Wednesday morning. It was a dreary depressive journey, made so in part by my companions, male and female, not one of whom could speak a word of English, and two or three only a little Teutonic French. They seemed to be mostly second and third class traders, people limited and ignorant and gross, the edges of whose selfishness had not been smoothed by lively attrition, much less serrated by contact with the upper strata of intellectual culture. Glad was I to stretch my legs and lungs in Cassel, whence in the afternoon, by the same conveyance, I started for Göttingen.

The chapters on Weimar and Göttingen, which were published some ten years ago in "Putnam's Magazine," are doubtless still fresh in the memory of many readers; perhaps too much so to permit extracts from their admirable descriptions. The lovers of German literature will find them crowded with fascinating pictures, and as memorials of the customs of a past generation, possessing not a little historical interest.

Every reader with intellectual tastes will recognize in this volume the traces of a fine literary culture, the habit of original thought and frank expression, and a versatility of mind which betrays an unusual acquaintance with the world of men as well as of books. The style of the author is so eminently individual as sometimes to impair the sympathy which cannot fail to be felt with the general tone and spirit of his writings. He often carries his illustrations to the extreme verge of rhetorical propriety. With a fertile imagination, a crowd of fancies and comparisons always seem to haunt his progress, many of which a more rigid judgment in selection would doom to perpetual silence, or at least to a severe pruning and curtailment. In the choice of words, as well as in the construction of sentences, we detect a want of neatness and harmony which sensibly diminishes the pleasure of the reader. Some of the paragraphs remind one of the roughness of a chestnut bur, rather than of the polish of ripe fruit, but if one will have sufficient patience, he will be sure to find within a sweet and wholesome kernel. It is ungracious, however, to dwell on such minor defects in a volume which contains so much substantial wealth of thought, such justness of taste and criticism, and so many animated and pleasant descriptions, which tempt and amply reward the most diligent perusal.

HOLIDAY BOOKS.

Our table is as gay with the bright covers of the Christmas Gift-books, as a wood-walk in Autumn with the falling leaves. We hardly remember when these publications have been so costly, so rich, and we may add so generally interesting as this year. Foremost among them for beauty of paper and printing, and for the intrinsic value of its contents is, perhaps, Leighton's "Life of Man Symbolized." This is an English book published by Longman, but introduced to the American public by the Appletons of this city who are the agents for it. The idea of the book is a comparison between the life of man and the growth of the year, and a swarm of extracts from all the best English poets and, indeed, from all the best poets of the world done into English, hums bee-like about the flowers that art has sowed with a liberal hand in margin and border. If we have any fault to find with this beautiful book it is that it is over rich, there is too much emblem, too much suggestion; but, then, it is a volume meant to be dipt into, not read, and it is full enough of beauty, and wisdom, and poetry, to make many an hour pass pleasantly and profitably by. The well-known English artist, John Leighton, has designed the illustrations, and they are engraved by the best English wood-engravers. Those who are in search of a beautiful and valuable book for a Christmas present need hardly look further.

D. Roberts & Co. send us the Poems of the ever popular Jean Ingelow, advanced to the dignity of vellum paper, eye-healing English print, and elegant binding. It is illustrated beside, with many wood-cuts, the most of which, we are sorry to say, are far more queer than beautiful. Now and then there is a pleasant one like J. Wolf's "Ring-Dove" on page 15, but we could wish such more frequent. The same publishers also issue "Griset's Grotesques, with Rhymes, by Tom Hood," a book of avowed nonsense, which will serve to make th[illegible] children laugh, although neither the wood-cuts n[illegible] verses have the real *vis comica* to our thinking. W[illegible]o not know who Griset is, but his work shows him on[illegible] a hundred clever Frenchmen, trained to draw with [illegible] facility whatever they set eyes on. But, he has n[illegible] much to say; and Mr. Tom Hood, who certainly does [illegible] inherit his father's wit or wisdom, has not been able [illegible] rise to the level of Mother Goose.

D. Appleton & Co. hav[illegible] a new collection of poetical extracts, with the [illegible] title, "Two Centuries of Song." It appears on [illegible] examination to have been made with taste and [illegible], although it does not compare in extent with the [illegible] publishers' "Household Book of Poetry," so [illegible] edited by Charles Dana, for which we are glad to [illegible] there is a continued demand. The present book, [illegible] is meant rather as an elegant gift than as a usef[illegible], and it fully answers the purpose with its beau[illegible] paper and print, and its noticeable binding, which, [illegible], it is not as successful as some that has come befor[illegible] this Christmas. Among the illustrations we find one [illegible] son of our American Leslie—George Leslie—whe[illegible] picture, "The War Summons," has interested [illegible] the walls of the Artist Fund Society.

W. H. Appleton has issued [illegible] edition of Mrs. Jameson's "Characteristics of Women," with steel-plate illustrations consisting of ideal port[illegible] of Shakespeare's Heroines. The book is always welcome and seems to have become a popular favorite, a distinction which it well deserves. Mrs. Jameson was a woman of learning and culture, and she impressed upon everything she wrote, beside these accomplishments, the charm of a strong yet gentle womanly nature. Mr. Appleton's edition of the "Characteristics" is very elegantly bound.

Charles Griffin publishes "The Poet's Kalendar," a collection of English Pastoral poetry with wood-cut illustrations by various hands. It contains much first-rate poetry, and the pictures, though in the conventional style of Birket Foster and his school, are by no means without merit.

Another Griffin, Richard, this time has sent out a venture which we hope will prove profitable, "The Works of Hogarth." A large, thick book with nearly everything that Hogarth ever painted or designed in it, and which would be still more valuable if the accompanying text were not so unworthy of the plates. What was wanted was a good, readable biography of Hogarth, with a description of the plates that should lead to a better and more serious understanding of them. Why will not Mr. Griffin, now that he has the plates, do this desirable thing for us? Hogarth is always new and fresh, and a well-written book about him, so freely illustrated, would be sure of a steady sale. We have had enough of old Trusler's moralizings for one century.

E. H. Butler & Co. of Philadelphia send us the Fourth Edition of "The Gallery of English and American Poets, with an Introductory Essay by Henry Coppée, LL.D., President of Lehigh University." The public evidently approve this handsome book, since it calls on Mr. Butler for a fourth edition and enables him to issue it so luxuriously. The new Edition is illustrated with a few additional engravings.

From George Routledge & Sons we receive "Wayside Posies; Original Poems of the Country Life, edited by Robert Buchanan." This is a collection of poems nearly all new; waifs gathered from many sources, some of them pretty good, but more, indifferent. The illustrations are of the same general character with those we noticed when speaking of Jean Ingelow's poems, but there are many more that are attractive than were contained in that volume; "The School," on page 46; "The Bit o' Garden," page 3; "The Visions of a City-tree," page 39, are among the good ones. They are all in a free unconventional style, and much more interesting on that account if on no other than the more formal and unsuggestive "steel-engravings" that used to fill the annuals of a by-gone day. But, sometimes, and in these two volumes very often, unconventionality is pushed too far.

J. B. Lippincott & Co., Philadelphia, add three little books to the store which awaits the children this year. These are called "The Ravel Story Books," and consist of rhymed versions of three of the Ravel Pantomimes. "Mazulme, the Night Owl," "The White Knight," and "Jocko," illustrated with somewhat exaggerated pictures printed in very bright colors. Those who think gaudy colors and nonsense verses good enough meat to feed a child's mind upon, will no doubt be attracted by these books, but we are not among the number.

How much more sensible is such a book as this "Child's Colored Gift Book" which Routledge publishes than those we have just been noticing. The drawings are almost all good, and if the color-printing had been more carefully done it would have been acceptable to many children of a larger growth than those it appears to be intended for. Now here is a publisher who always employs the best men to work for him, and who seems to be able to judge for himself when a thing is well done, and the result is that even his cheapest books have something in them that makes them worth looking at.

"Parables from Nature, by Mrs. Alfred Gatty," comes to us with Bell & Daldy's imprint on the title-page. It looks like heavy reading, but some of the illustrations are pretty. "Purring when you're pleased," p. 27; "Inferior Animals," p. 61, "Birds in the Nest," p. 173, would make the book worth buying, if they were all the pictures it contained. The others are not so satisfactory. Burne Jones, of whom some of us have heard so much, disappoints us with his "The Deliverer." It is weak, and looks affected.

Here again we have a book from Routledge—"Hans Christian Andersen's Stories for the Household." Delightful story-book; for which children cannot be grateful enough, and of which it is too late to say anything in praise. Every one has read it, or will read it, and who can tell the depth and strength of the influence it will exert and has exerted on the minds of the children of to-day.

James Miller of this city has made a selection of the poems of Mrs. Browning relating to childhood, or written for children, and published it with beautiful paper and print, and with pictures by Messrs. Hennessy and Thwaites. We have been much pleased with several of Mr. Hennessy's drawings. "The Child Asleep," "The Romance of the Swan's Nest"—that on page 89 is the better of the two; "The Portrait," page 131, are much to be commended, the others are not so good. This effort of Mr. Miller's deserves encouragement—he has tried to make a pretty gift-book and has succeeded.

Messrs. Cassell, Pettner, and Galpin have republished Doré's "Wandering Jew," in a very handsome fashion. This is the work that made Doré famous, and it is, indeed, one of his best works. The subject has suited him, and he has taken hold of it with fire.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

The Seventh and Eighth Volumes of Froude's "History of England," republished by Charles Scribner & Co., describes the reign of Queen Elizabeth from its commencement in 1558 to the year 1565, closing with an account of the voyages of John Hawkins in the slave trade. The rationale of this traffic is tersely stated in one of Mr. Froude's crisp sentences which read like an apothegm. "The European first converted the negro into a savage, and then made use of his brutality as an excuse for plunging him into slavery." Mr. Froude continues the strain of eulogy with which he has treated the house of Tudor in his previous volumes, and in many respects exhibits the character of Elizabeth in a new and favorable light. In regard to the position of Mary Stuart, which has called forth such vehement controversy and such excited partisanship, Mr. Froude takes strong ground against the Queen of Scots. He conducts the discussion with singular acuteness, and fortifies his views by a course of ingenious argument, which is none the less forcible, for being indirect. The volumes, like those which have preceded them, abound in short, sharp-cut sketches, which present a life-like image of the personages of the history. How much more, for example, is told of John Knox, in the miniature of the stern Scottish Calvinist than is usually done in the most labored portrait. "The northern reformers saw in their first study of the Old Testament the antitype of their own history. They construed literally the order to keep no terms with idol worship, and in toleration or conformity they found the rock on which the chosen people had made shipwreck. Penetrated to the heart with this conviction, John Knox became thus the representative of all that was best in Scotland. He was no narrow fanatic who, in a world in which God's grace was equally visible in a thousand creeds, could see truth and goodness nowhere but in his own formula. He was a large, noble, generous man, with a shrewd perception of actual fact, who found himself face to face with a system of hideous iniquity. He believed himself a prophet, with a direct commission from heaven to overthrow it, and his return to Scotland became the signal therefore for the renewal of the struggle." The present volumes, although continuing the history from the former series without interruption, form in fact the commencement of a new work, as the accession of Elizabeth is the commencement of a new epoch in the history of the Reformation.

The Fourth Edition of "Dies Iræ in Thirteen Original Versions," by Abraham Coles, M.D., is published by D. Appleton & Co. Although as a Protestant and a votary of physical science, the author of this volume might be presumed to cherish but little sympathy with the devotional effusions of the Roman Catholic church, his mind seems to be surcharged with the spirit of mediæval poetry, to the study of which he has evidently devoted himself with passionate sincerity. Nothing but a deep love of the subject could have given him the impulse to reproduce so faithfully the monkish lays which express the faith and worship of the Roman Church in the forms of the imagination. United with a rare command of language and facility of versification, this is the secret of the eminent success with which he has reproduced the solemn litany of the middle ages in such a variety of forms. If not all of equal excellence, it is hard to decide as to their respective merits, so admirably do they embody the tone and sentiment of the original in vigorous and impressive verse. The essays which precede and follow the Hymn, exhibit the learning and taste of the translator in a most favorable light, and show that an antiquary and a poet have not been lost in the study of science and the practice of a laborious profession. In addition to the thirteen versions of "Dies Iræ," the volume contains translations of the "Stabat Mater," "Urbs Cœlestis Syon," "Veni Creator Spiritus," and other choice mediæval hymns, which have been executed with equal unction and felicity.—We have also a poem, by the same author, entitled "The Microcosm" read before the Medical Society of New-Jersey, of which Dr. Coles is president, at its centenary anniversary. It is an ingenious attempt to present the principles of the animal economy in a philosophical poem, somewhat after the manner of Lucretius, and combining scientific analysis with religious sentiment. In ordinary hands, we should not regard this as a happy, nor a safe, experiment, but the dexterity with which it has been managed by Dr. Coles illustrates his versatile talent as well as the originality of his conceptions.

"The History of a Mouthful of Bread," translated from the French of Jean Macé, by Mrs. Alfred Gatty, is published in a carefully revised edition by the American News Company. The work is written by an accomplished physiologist and naturalist, and aims at presenting the leading principles of the animal organization in a form adapted to gain the interest and impress the mind of the youngest readers. A morsel of bread is taken as the type of alimentary substances, and its successive changes are described from its entrance into the mouth to the completion of digestion. Pursuing this method the author explains the whole series of processes by which the waste and repair of the physical system is effected, and a mouthful of bread, or beef, or vegetables, is converted into the flesh and blood of the living body. His illustrations are ample and in the highest degree, ingenious, often presenting a familiar subject in a fresh light, and clearing up difficulties which more elaborate scientific works have overlooked. The volume has been prepared especially for the use of children, but we think, the multiplicity and even the aptness and beauty of the illustrations would tend to embarrass their minds, and prevent them from obtaining distinct ideas in a range of study, which in its minute details is as yet above their comprehension. Readers of greater maturity and experience, who are interested in physiology, will find not a little pleasure, and a rich store of instruction in the perusal of the volume.

"The Complete Phonographer," by James E. Munson, gives a full exposition of the principles and methods of phonography, especially in its relation to short-hand reporting, for which that system justly claims a preëminence over every invention that has been devised for that purpose. Mr. Munson, from ample experience of its use in a responsible official capacity, is well qualified to explain its character, and to set forth its advantages, and the volume which he has now given to the public, for its clearness of statement and fullness of detail, will doubtless take the precedence of all previous manuals on the subject. Among other improvements introduced by the author is that of freeing the system from the anomalies and exceptions to general rules, which have hitherto been the source of infinite perplexity to the student, and which have to a large extent interfered with the utility of its practical applications. The system, moreover, has been treated as a complete, integral method, without the usual superfluous and burdensome distinction of "corresponding" and "reporting" styles. In the early part of the work, two sets of rules are given, one for the reader of phonographic outlines and the other for the writer, an arrangement which will be found of great convenience, especially in the commencement of the study. The volume is particulary adapted to the use of reporters, and cannot fail to prove of great service to that important branch of the profession of journalists. (Published by Robert H. Johnston & Co.)

A beautiful gift book, published by C. Scribner & Co., is "Burns's Cotter's Saturday Night" with numerous pictorial illustrations from designs by F. A. Chapman, and in style of print, paper, and binding suited to gratify the most fastidious taste. The poem, which presents so many scenes adapted to artistic embellishment, has never before been detached from the collected works of the author for the honors of an ornamented edition, like the "Deserted Village," the "Elegy in a Country Churchyard," and other favorite productions of English verse. It is now issued in a form which enhances the attractions of the original, and will doubtless find an appreciative welcome. We have received from the same publishers the illustrated edition of Dr. Holland's popular New-England poem, "Bitter Sweet," which won such wide favor on its original appearance in a plain dress, and which is now embellished with an excellent likeness of the author, and a variety of appropriate and well-executed illustrations.

Hurd & Houghton have issued a handsome edition of Milton's "Paradise Lost," with brief explanatory notes intended to elucidate obscure terms of expression, and difficult points of mythology, history, and geography. It has reference particularly to a class of readers who can relish Milton's poetry, but who are without access to copious sources of reference. The edition has been prepared with the aid of Professor Torrey of Harvard University. The same publishers have issued a convenient and well-printed edition of Moore's "Lalla Rookh," with illustrations from designs by John Tenniel.

A little volume of poems entitled "Hopefully Waiting and Other Verses," by Anson D. F. Randolph, challenges notice from the public by its depth and tenderness of feeling, its fervid religious sentiment, and the vein of strong domestic affection which animates its pages. The pieces are mostly of a devotional character, and both in their turn of thought and manner of expression, betray an intimacy with the earlier English writers of religious poetry. The volume is brought out by Charles Scribner & Co., and in a modest dedication to the senior member of that house, recognises his friendly encouragement as the motive for its publication.

An edition of "The New Gospel of Peace according to St. Benjamin" is published in a neat duodecimo volume by the American News Company. The publisher's advertisement prefixed to the volume contains some rather spicy gossip in regard to the vexed question of its authorship, which it seems still remains no less doubtful than that other question, "Who wrote Shakespeare's Plays?" The extraordinary favor with which the successive issues of this popular satire were received will doubtless be renewed on its publication in a collective form. The same publishers have brought out a reprint of "Olive Logan's New Christmas Story."

McLoughlin Brothers publish a collection of illustrated juvenile books for the youngest children including "Big Picture Series," with colored engravings, many of them distressingly comic, and a religious series called "Half Hours with the Bible," consisting of brief characters from the Scripture history.

JANUARY PERIODICALS.

"The Edinburgh Review" (reprinted by the Leonard Scott Publishing Company) is devoted chiefly to topics of special British interest. The article with which the number opens, on Kaye's "History of the Sepoy War," controverts the leading positions of that historian with regard to the character of the conflict, maintaining that it was a mere military mutiny, of a which a few insignificant classes took advantage, partly to gain their freedom from British rule, and partly for the sake of license and plunder, and not a general rising of the people of India. M. Feuillet de Conches' gossiping book, "Varieties of History and War," is the subject of a gossiping paper, in which the Christmas plums of that work are served up without much pretension to neatness or good taste in the concoction. The article on "International Coinage" gives an instructive account of the changes which have been made since the year 1850 in the monetary legislation of the Western States of Continental Europe. These changes originated in the effects produced by the vast importations of Californian and Australian gold, which have increased the proportion between gold and silver at a prodigious rate since the year 1849. Late in the day, we have a review of Louis Napoleon's Julius Cæsar, which pronounces the Emperor to have been unsuccessful as a literary workman, altogether lacking the graces of a popular author, and quite incapable of interesting the reader by the charm of manner, or through such sympathy of sentiment as masters of the art are able to excite. His style is not only meager, but harsh and grating, and his ideas are addressed to enthusiasts and sectarians. As a record of the series of events in the foreign and domestic annals of Rome which led to the civil war, his work is to the last degree unsatisfactory, evincing no preparation beyond a superficial knowledge of a few classical authors, and of the modern compilations on the subject which were popular in ordinary education fifty years ago. He does not even seem to know that any further qualifications could be required, or could even be possible. He has not the slightest familiarity with the school of inquirers into early Roman history which commenced with Niebuhr, nor with such writers as Mommsen, who have thrown such a flood of light on the domestic life and external policy of the Romans. His favorite political deductions are founded on facts which might have been acquired from the school-books in ordinary use. A discriminating article, written with breadth of view and candor of judgment, treats of the theological questions that have recently been called up by the publications of Strauss and Renan, and the author of "Ecce Homo." The last-named work is declared to be "the English 'Life of Jesus,' thoroughly adapted to and characteristic of the country whence it sprang, and not only worthy of comparison with the more scientific and more histrionic works which have proceeded from Germany and France, but distinctly taking the lead of them in point of successful handling of the question." The reviewer expresses the most intense disgust with the manner in which the work has been treated in certain quarters by bigoted English critics, including Mr. Spurgeon and the Quarterly. "It reflects the deepest disgrace upon the writers, and displays in a shape which it would be superfluous to caricature the almost hopeless senility of modern orthodoxy." Other articles in this number are given to "Felix Holt," Froude's "Reign of Elizabeth," "Antique Gems," and "The Military Growth of Prussia," the last-named paper containing a variety of instructive details of peculiar interest at the present moment.

"The Atlantic Monthly" gives the first installment of a serial story called the "Guardian Angel," by Dr. O. W. Holmes, which opens with a rich flavor of New-England individuality, and promises further developments of exciting interest. Another racy touch of Yankee land is found in a poem by Lowell, showing up an incident in the lower regions not mentioned in Dante's Inferno. Mr. Higginson contributes an admirable essay on "Culture," written in a style of classic elegance, although it opens with the blunder of ascribing to Theodore Parker the well known remark of Dr. Johnson about learning in Scotland, softened down into the expression "that every one gets a mouthful but scarcely one a full meal." A similar mistake is made by Mr. Parton, who puts Milton's familiar line of a "dim, religious light" into the mouth of our venerable countryman Mr. Verplanck. In spite of this inadvertence, Mr. Parton's article on "Henry Ward Beecher's Church" is an excellent specimen of magazine writing, disguising a certain boldness, if not originality of thought, beneath a vivacity of manner that approaches flippancy, and tempering the freedom of his personal details with an an unfeigned respect and admiration for their subject. The secret of Mr. Beecher's success, is explained by a theory that will not give universal satisfaction. "Now, there appears to be a man upon Brooklyn Heights who has found out a more excellent way of conducting a church than has been previously known. He does not waste the best hours of every day in writing sermons, but employs those hours in absorbing the knowledge and experience which should be the matter of sermons. He does not fritter away the time of a public instructor in 'pastoral visits,' and other useless visitations. His mode of conducting a public ceremonial reached the finish of high art, which it resembles also in its sincerity and simplicity. He has known how to banish from his church everything that savors of cant and sanctimoniousness—so loathsome to honest minds. Without formally rejecting time-honored forms and usages, he has infused into his teachings more and more of the modern spirit, drawn more and more from science and life, less and less from tradition, until he has acquired the power of preaching sermons which Edwards and Voltaire, Whitefield and Tom Paine, would heartily and equally enjoy. Surely there is something in all this which could be imitated. The great talents with which he is endowed cannot be imparted, but we do not believe that his power is wholly derived from his talent. A man of only respectable abilities, who should catch his spirit, practice some of his methods, and spend his strength in getting knowledge, and not in coining sentences, would be able anywhere to gather round him a concourse of hearers. The great secret is, to let orthodoxy slide, as something which is neither to be maintained nor refuted—insisting only on the spirit of Christianity, and applying it to the life of the present day in this land." Mr. Emerson contributes a characteristic poem, in which the spirit of Marcus Antoninus finds expression in neither smooth nor flowing rhymes, but which has a certain personal interest apart from its application of a wise, Stoical philosophy.

TERMINUS.

It is time to be old,
To take in sail:—
The god of bounds,
Who sets to seas a shore,
Came to me in his fatal rounds,
And said, "No more!
No further spread
Thy broad ambitious branches, and thy root;
Fancy departs: no more invent,
Contract thy firmament
To compass of a tent.
There's not enough for this and that,
Make thy option which of two;
Economize the failing river,
Not the less adore the Giver,
Leave the many and hold the few.
Timely wise accept the terms,
Soften the fall with wary foot;
A little while
Still plan and smile,
And, fault of novel germs,
Mature the unfallen fruit.

"Curse, if thou wilt, thy sires,
Bad husbands of their fires,
Who, when they gave thee breath,
Failed to bequeath
The needful sinew stark as once,
The Baresark marrow to thy bones,
But left a legacy of ebbing veins,
Inconstant heat and nerveless reins,—
Amid the Muses, left thee deaf and dumb,
Amid the gladiators, halt and numb."

As the bird trims her to the gale,
I trim myself to the storm of time,
I man the rudder, reef the sail,
Obey the voice at eve, obeyed at prime:
"Lowly, faithful, banish fear,
Right-onward drive unharmed;
The port, well worth the cruise, is near,
And every wave is charmed."

The names of other distinguished poets are on the list of contributors to this number including that of Bryant, from whom we have a translation of the "Contention between Achilles and Agamemnon" from the First Book of the Iliad, Whittier who gives a ballad of "The Lost Ship Palatine," and E. C. Stedman who celebrates the unlooked-for appearance of "Pan in Wall Street."

"Our Young Folks" commences the Third Volume with favorable promise. The arrangements for the coming year are on a liberal plan, including an array of writers of high reputation in different departments. Bayard Taylor, and Round-the-World Joe, will furnish adventures of travel, the favorite national poets Longfellow, Lowell, Whittier, Aldrich, and others will contribute original productions, and several of the best writers in the country are engaged for stories and sketches and an ample variety of miscellaneous matter.

"The Catholic World" opens with an appropriate original Christmas hymn, and a large portion of its contents have reference to the same religious festival. Among the selected articles, the essay on "Victims of Doubt," will be read with interest as an illustration of the present state of opinion on the great points of religious faith, and for the biographical sketches which are introduced in the course of the discussion. According to the writer, it is not the prevailing fashion to scoff at Christianity, or to make an open profession of infidelity, but most schools of thought outside the Catholic Church are drifting into a subtle skepticism, which is worse than bigotry or misbelief, and into which even Catholics of a restless and disloyal temper are in danger of being precipitated. The current literature of the day, which is mostly framed to suit the taste of the market, is preëminently neither blasphemous, nor anti-Catholic, nor polemical, but skeptical. Such periodicals as the Saturday Review are equally ready to laugh at a pompous prelate or a fussy evangelical preacher, to dissect a Protestant scheme of evidences, or a system of infidel philosophy; they handle religious truth with decorous calmness, instead of rancor and raving, but there is always a strong undercurrent of antagonism to supernatural faith and supernatural virtue. The eff[illegible] the spirit is to induce many thinking men to "sit [illegible] and rest in doubt, as the best wisdom and the safest [illegible]tion." A volume has recently been published [illegible] giving the experience of some of the chief [illegible] philosophers and poets of the present century [illegible] made the fullest disclosures of the working of their minds in private journals or autobiographical [illegible] Among these are Theodore Jouffroy, Maine de [illegible] Lord Byron, Schiller, Leopardi, Alfred de Musset, [illegible] Heine, and others. The mental revelations [illegible] described in the volume, and epitomized in the [illegible] of remarkable interest, and have never before been [illegible] to the public in a collective form. The conclusion of the whole matter is, of course, according to the writer, [illegible] mission to the teaching of the infallible Church [illegible] be summed up in the words of Augustin Thierry: "I have need of an infallible authority. I have need of [illegible] for my soul. I open my eyes, and I see only one [illegible] that of the Catholic Church. I believe what the Catholic Church teaches; I receive her Credo." But it may be said that other eyes are differently constructed, [illegible] see only a vail of splendid illusions where Thierry [illegible] that he saw the light of Heaven.

"The Nursery" is the title of a new monthly [illegible] intended for the youngest class of readers, edited by [illegible] P. Seavems, and published by A. Williams in B[illegible] It is prettily illustrated and the intellectual pap [illegible] furnishes is sweetened to the taste.

"The American Journal of Horticulture" is a periodical of which the first number is issued by J. [illegible]ton & Co., Boston. It contains valuable artic[illegible] "Spring Flowers," "The Plants of Our Woods [illegible] Fields," "Flowers in Cities," "Pear Culture," and [illegible] important branches pertaining to the garden and [illegible]hold. Among the contributors are Francis P[illegible] John Lewis Russell, E. S. Rand, and other distin[illegible] botanists, and horticultural amateurs. The matt[illegible] been evidently prepared by able hands, which to[illegible] with the neat exterior of the work, recommends the claimant to public favor.

Mr. Bidwell's popular "Eclectic Magazine" op[illegible] new volume with its usual well selected variety not [illegible] from the strawberries and cream of the British peri[illegible] but also from the roast beef, bread and butter, and [illegible] substantial dishes of their ample bills of fare. The [illegible] has acquired an unerring tact in setting the best [illegible] before his readers, and whoever declines partaking [illegible] table which he so liberally spreads because the via[illegible] not of home growth, may "go further and fare wo[illegible] our opinion, indeed, the magazine would be impr[illegible] devoting the space which is now occupied [illegible] inadequate, and sometimes a little longer original [illegible] notices, to such substantial and wholesome [illegible] now almost invariably all the body of the [illegible] Bidwell offers as a gratuity to his subscri[illegible] graving of Washington from an original [illegible] O. C. Darley.

"Hours at Home [illegible]

"Italy's Future," by G. M. [illegible] though that country has succeeded in the establishme[illegible] her national unity, she has not yet achieved great[illegible] but only the opportunity to become great. The a[illegible] points out the dangers and difficulties which oppo[illegible] progress, but on the whole encourages the hope that [illegible] will again become one of the great powers of the [illegible] worthy of her old renown, and her until now do[illegible] wealth and genius. "Libraries, Old and New," by A. E. Porter, gossips agreeably about some of the [illegible] libraries of the world. The following comparison b[illegible] two prominent institutions of New-York is well [illegible] "Last, not least, we come to our own city, where [illegible] noble Astor bears witness to the wealth and liberal[illegible] one family. It was commenced in 1839, and has [illegible] 100,000 volumes. But it is not a circulating library [illegible] do we find the masses going there freely to enjoy [illegible] treasures. It is a delightful place for the student [illegible] literary gourmand, the lady of leisure who has a [illegible] taste; but we must turn to the Cooper Institute [illegible] the men whose hands are hard with toil, the tired [illegible]tles, the street-boy, the weary female teacher, [illegible] foreigner who sits down so eagerly to the foreign [illegible] We have watched all these classes there, and [illegible] envied the donor the happiness which he must feel [illegible] he sees the good which his hands have d[illegible] periodicals are often so soiled that more fastidio[illegible] go elsewhere. Let them do so, especially on [illegible] afternoon, when those for whom the Institute was [illegible] forget the toils of the week in the reading freely furn[illegible] them." "Rambles among the Italian Hills," by [illegible]can lady resident in Rome has several bits of [illegible] description, and Mr. C. L. Brace's account of [illegible] Trip in the Tyrol" is lively and readable. We g[illegible] his striking pictures of a region which is less [illegible] most American travelers than the other portion[illegible] tral Europe.

I had a long conversation with a physician havin[illegible] official control over a district near the capital, [illegible] all that I hear everywhere of the marvelous virtue [illegible] fluence of the peasantry. The Tyrolese is singularly fai[illegible] his attachments; and this gentleman says he has kn[illegible] young peasant and maiden betrothed in their teens, [illegible] serving their plighted word for 10 or even 20 years, [illegible] living far apart, and only seeing each other once in [illegible] weeks—the man walking, it may be, 30 or 50 miles to [illegible] betrothed a few hours on a Sunday. Marriages are late. [illegible] curious to know of this physician what effect the constant [illegible] door labor had on the women, whether there was [illegible] moral influence or any physical weakening from it, for in [illegible] branch of agriculture you may see women laboring [illegible] open," in Tyrol. They dig and hoe and rake [illegible] plant, and even make roads. The effect on their [illegible] unfortunately too plain. The young maidens [illegible] rich beauty—a bloom nut-brown and clear as the [illegible] of long black hair tastefully arranged, arms and [illegible] rounded, and a regular nose and clear eyes; but [illegible] old their forms spread with this heavy labor, and [illegible]plexion becomes brown and faces wrinkled. A w[illegible] will look as if she were 60. My friend said [illegible] true of Tyrol, that this open-air work with the men has [illegible] effect on the morals of either; and so far as health is con[illegible] the women are wonderfully strong. He never hears co[illegible] of "backs," or the usual woman's ailments. A young [illegible] will work in the fields every week-day of the month; and [illegible]ried women will resume harvesting or gardening a f[illegible] after their confinement. I have often asked the [illegible] they liked it, and they have uniformly said they much [illegible] it to house-work, for in-doors they never felt so well. [illegible] say here of the *physique* of the Tyrolese, that the m[illegible] fine race, far superior to the Bavarians or Austria[illegible] with supple and muscular figures, thin and marked [illegible] nose often aquiline, and the eye keen and command[illegible] mouth firm and set—a face lively and masculine, [illegible] appreciating wit and poetry but also accustomed [illegible] and hardship, with the capacity of great obstina[illegible]ness of feeling. Take a mountaineer, with his [illegible] hat and cock's feathers, his rifle in hand, a [illegible] broidered jacket slung over one shoulder, and a [illegible] shirt showing the broad chest, tight breeches and [illegible] ings revealing the symmetry of the legs, the flush of [illegible] climb on his cheeks and the light of the chase in his e[illegible] and you have as handsome a specimen of a man [illegible] seen.

The number closes with a paper by Mr. Tucker[illegible] the "Duty of Citizenship," and editorial notices [illegible] rent literature.

"Beadle's Monthly" devotes an instructive [illegible] "Labrador," giving a summary of a portion of [illegible] Hind's recent valuable work, in which he describe[illegible] sult of an exploring expedition in the interior [illegible] country in the year 1863. Previous to the journey [illegible]fessor Hind, little was known of the geography [illegible]dor, and his investigations have brought to light [illegible] facts with regard to its topography, population, a[illegible] history, which as succinctly set forth in this ar[illegible] sess not a little interest for the student of geo[illegible] discoveries. "The Master of Carbon" is a w[illegible] with an echo of the unearthly conceptions of Edg[illegible] Frank H. Norton. Mrs. E. Oakes Smith contri[illegible] first chapter of a series of "Autobiographic N[illegible] cluding her personal recollections of several [illegible] literary characters, incidental criticisms of their [illegible] and philosophical reflections on a variety of [illegible] topics. "A Chat about Carlotta," by a writer [illegible] occupied an official post at the court of Maximil[illegible] viceroy of the Lombardo-Venetian kingdom, giv[illegible] detail of the social and public life of the Empr[illegible] her accession to the throne of Mexico. A [illegible] by Mrs. M. V. Victor entitled "Still[illegible] of Gold" [illegible] the mysteries of New-York society. The num[illegible] with its usual miscellaneous collection of "Notes, [illegible] and Gossip."

The new volume of "The Galaxy," opens wit[illegible] honest-looking new type, and sixteen addition[illegible] But small space in this number, as usual, is giv[illegible] bish or makeweights, most of the contents b[illegible] worth reading, and several articles of more tha[illegible] interest and attractiveness. "Tristan" is the co[illegible] ment of a story which gives good promise in its [illegible] of character drawing, and its intimations of a tr[illegible] "The Policy of Confiscation" is discussed in a [illegible] oned article of W. C. Church, maintaining both [illegible] experience of the country since the close of the [illegible] the lessons of history, that vindictive measures [illegible] place in the treatment of those who participa[illegible] late rebellion. National safety [illegible] exercise of revenge and retaliation, but in the [illegible] of wise precautions for the future. Mrs. [illegible] contributes a paper with many interesting [illegible] and historical details concerning the celebrat[illegible] patriot and martyr Savonarola. An article by [illegible] Stone on the "Jane McCrea Tragedy" gives [illegible] sion of that significant episode in the history of [illegible] lutionary war from the story as related by Irving [illegible] and others, and generally preserved in popula[illegible] Mr. Grant White in the "Quest for English" [illegible] several instances of bad grammatical constru[illegible] style of Addison—a task by no means difficult, [illegible] which he had been anticipated by Cobbett, in [illegible] treatise on English grammar.

The illustrated articles in this number of "Ha[illegible] even more numerous than usual, and most of [illegible] devoted to subjects of general interest. After [illegible] ing verses "At the Area Gate," which may be [illegible] without entering, the first of them is one of the [illegible] fairy tales of M. Laboulaye, translated by Miss Bo[illegible] comes a fresh installment of J. S. C. Abbott's "[illegible]" relating the flight, imprisonment, and escape of [illegible] the brave Union prisoners; this is followed by [illegible] Paper of "Personal Recollections of the War," [illegible] London Police Court." A very striking desc[illegible] some scenes in the July riots in New-York is [illegible] the head of "Three Days of Terror," recalling [illegible] tragedy to vivid remembrance without an[illegible] straining for dramatic effect. "The [illegible] courses in its accustomed vein of [illegible] result of the elections, the comp[illegible] labor, the influence of old historica[illegible] of the Austrian rule in Italy, and oth[illegible] interest.

THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENTS—EGYPTIAN BUILDING—DEPARTMENT OF MOROCCO—AMERICAN DEPARTMENT—GOODS FROM SWEDEN—IMPORTANT IMPERIAL NOTICE—THE STEAMSHIP GREAT EASTERN—THE POPE AND THE EXHIBITION—MILITARY OUTLAY OF EUROPE—THE PUBLICATION OF THE AUTHENTICATED CATALOGUE OF THE EXHIBITION.

From Our Special Correspondent.

PARIS, Nov. 16, 1866.

I mentioned in a former letter that the Isle of Billancourt, in the Seine, is to be devoted to agricultural experiments during the great Exhibition. The extent of land to be set apart for the use of the Commission is 51 acres; the intelligence, however, which reaches the department occupied by this particular subject lead to the belief that the extent of 51 acres will be inadequate to the demands of intending exhibitors. If a larger quantity can be obtained, well and good, but as this is highly improbable, seeing the great difficulties experienced in the search of land offering the necessary facilities, the end will be that the associations of agricultural competitors must be somewhat reduced. Agricultural improvers and machinists will have, as the saying is, to cut their coat according to their cloth. The principal advantage of the Isle of Billancourt for the object in question, is its vicinity to the Champs de Mars. No plot of land of similar extent, equally accessible is to be found. With the extent, the system of infinitesimal proprietorship reigning in France, is nowhere more exemplified than in the immediate neighborhood of Paris. This is sufficient to account for the extreme difficulty in obtaining the necessary number of acres lying together. As to the particular situation of the Isle de Billancourt with regard to the Champs de Mars, nothing can be better. Not only is it sufficiently near to render the time occupied in reaching it a matter of no consideration, but it may be reached both by carriage along the banks of the Seine, or by steamboat on the Seine itself. Persons disposed to c[illegible] the arrangements of the Imperial Commissioners, affirm that these arrangements contemplate too large an appropriation of space in the park to such purposes as hotels, restaurants, and even places of amusement. Not having the means of knowing exactly what are the final decisions of the Imperial Commission as to the distribution of space, I cannot pretend to form an opinion on this much-debated subject; but it must be borne in mind that the experiments in agriculture and the trials of agricultural machinery are intended to attract the attention of the masses, and that out of every 100 persons who will visit the Isle de Billancourt perhaps not five will possess any but the most shadowy notions of agriculture, and that consequently, in the attempt to popularize the subject, the element of attractiveness must be kept in view. This principle of blending instruction with amusement is, in point of fact, the tendency of the day, and we everywhere find subjects, more or less dry and abstruse in themselves, taken up by large numbers of eager students, merely by reason of the pleasant mode in which they are presented by popular [illegible].

Among the various buildings arising in the park of the Champs de Mars none are in so advanced a state as those of the Governments of Egypt, Tunis and Morocco are [illegible]. The buildings in the Egyptian department are, it will be remembered, three in number. They consist of a scrupulously exact copy of the Temple of Borrheg[?], one of the most remarkable specimens of early Pharaonic art, the kiosk for the reception of the Viceroy himself during his visits to the Exhibition; and a specimen of the ordinary dwellings of the Fellahs of the country, with stables for dromedaries, and other objects illustrative of Egyptian everyday life. In the Morocco department we are promised, in addition to a sort of retrospective museum filled with specimens of early Carthaginian art, numerous articles of modern fabrics at present in use in the [illegible]. Among these mention is already made of furniture, musical instruments, stamped leather, saddles, bridles and other horse furniture, tissues of various sorts, samples of the costumes in use by every class of the people, arms and pottery. Native workmen will be brought over, and will exercise their different crafts in public, while the [illegible] peculiar to the country will be sold to all comers in a tent of native construction. It is stated that both the Viceroy of Egypt and the Bey of Tunis have advanced considerable sums of money for the execution of the work connected with their respective departments. It is interesting, amid the accounts which reach us from the United States of the preparations there making for the Exhibition of 1867, to look back to the catalogue of the London exhibition of 1862, and to glance one's eye over the poor entire pages filled by the recapitulation of the American department; there is not much to dwell upon. Among the articles which have left their mark in the march of improvement we have first and foremost McCormick's [illegible] and mowing machine, and the sewing machines of Wheeler & Wilson, Willcox & Gibbs, and others. Beyond this there is little to note, if we except the samples of starch in Class IV., Sickles's steam-steering apparatus in Class VIII., and the pianos of Steinway & Sons in Class XVII. To turn from the past to the future, as far the application for space in the United States department, whether in the palace or in the park largely exceeds the quantity it will be in the power of the United States Commission to award. But let not intending exhibitors be intimidated by this intelligence. I believe I am justified in stating that no article of whatever description sent over to Paris next year, need be hidden for want of a locality in which it may be submitted to public view. I shall shortly be in a position to enlighten your readers on this subject; for the present I content myself with repeating that space, official or unofficial, will be provided for the public exhibition of every article which can possibly be sent to Paris from any part of the world.

Before one of the classes in which we are expected to make a first-rate figure is class No. 37, in which fire-arms and arms of every description are included. It seems that already Europe is becoming, as the French say, *tributary*, to a certain extent, to America for fire-arms. An instance of this is found in the fact, as stated here, that an order for 30,000 breech-loaders has been given by the Swiss Government to a large firm in the United States, which has engaged to execute the contract in a fabulously short time.

A large arrival of goods for the Exhibition is noted at the port of Havre from Sweden. They consist of a considerable number of articles for the inside of the palace, glass cases for the same, made at Stockholm, and some model Swedish cottages to be erected in the park. Seven Swedish workmen have arrived by the vessel which brings them, who are to erect the buildings in the park, and subsequently to arrange the goods for show in the palace. Two small steamers have also come over, similar to the steamers used for passenger traffic on the lakes of Stockholm. The goods are to be placed on board lighters, and towed up the Seine by these steamers. They will thus be landed directly in front of the Champs de Mars. It is stated that the steamers will remain during the Exhibition, and run on the Seine with the other French passenger steamers.

A notice had been some time ago published informing exhibitors that the Emperor and Empress wish to reserve to themselves their entire liberty of selection of articles sent to the exhibition, and that they will not purchase any articles which shall be marked with their *chiffre* without their consent. The *Moniteur* of the 15th inst. comes out more officially and pointedly on the subject. It says: "The Emperor and the Empress have again expressed their intention of not allowing any object sent to the Universal Exhibition of 1867 to be placed under their patronage."

It is known that the Monarch of the Deep, the Great Eastern, has been taken by a French Company, at the head of which is Mr. Despeches, and is to be freighted for running between New-York and Brest during the Exhibition. She has accommodations for 3,500 passengers, and is expected to make the run considerably within nine days. The partisans of Cherbourg as a point of departure and arrival for Transatlantic steamers, assert that this port is more advantageous than Brest, not only on account of its shorter distance from Paris, but because its roads are more accessible than those of Brest, and the depth of water in its harbor is greater. It is admitted that Brest is nearer to New-York than Cherbourg, but the difference by sea is more than saved by the shorter land journey between Cherbourg and Paris, while the French coast toward Cherbourg is described as having [illegible] advantages over that toward Brest on the score of safety. According to a memorial on this subject, drawn up by the Chamber of Commerce of Cherbourg, which I now have before me, seven-eighths of the trade of [illegible] with France goes through Havre, and an unusually high rate of insurance is imposed upon ships [illegible] Havre, on account of the notorious dangers of the coast of Brittany. These dangers, according to the memorial, would be avoided if the port of Cherbourg were substituted for that of Brest.

At the time when the contingency of the incorporation of the States of the Church (or rather the fragment thereof which remains), within the next few weeks, is seriously contemplated, it will be interesting to examine the distribution of the existing population.

In Rome, the numbers are	203,896
In Velletri	14,000
In Alatri	11,370
In Civita Vecchia	10,000
The rural population throughout the States	460,734
Total	700,000

His Holiness Pius IX. intends to put in an appearance at the Exhibition. He has ordered copies of some works —the names of which are as yet a secret—to be printed expressly for the occasion by the printing establishment of the Propaganda, that great arsenal of the thunders of the Church. From Catholicity to Spain the transition is not violent. I hear that among the works of art in the Spanish department will be exhibited the model of the monument by Maria Baldon, erected by Spain to the memory of Christopher Columbus.

Speaking of the outlay made comparatively throughout Europe upon military armaments, and upon writers of [illegible] the [illegible] *Liberté*, edited by the well-[illegible] "in time of peace [illegible] of 3,815,847 soldiers. [illegible] armies forming that [illegible] which is 32 per [illegible] governments. [illegible] Europe might [illegible] work. The [illegible] the annual [illegible] which, ad-[illegible] of France [illegible] a half [illegible] coun-[illegible]

[illegible] a New-York house for the exclusive sale of the English version.

I take this opportunity of mentioning the name of Henry Bacon, a young American artist, pupil of Frère. He is making great progress in his art, and I have seen some very pleasing and effective works signed by his name.

AFTER THE BUFFALOES.

THE UNION PACIFIC RAILWAY, E. D.—NINE DAYS ON THE PLAINS OF KANSAS—A BUFFALO HUNT—JOURNALISTS ON THE RAMPAGE.

From our Special Correspondent.

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 19, 1866.

The excursion party which came out from Philadelphia to see the Union Pacific Railway, Eastern Division, from Leavenworth and Wyandotte to Junction City, Kansas, went a good deal further than they intended, and had a very particularly jolly time which was not in the original programme. In the company of about 150 ladies and gentlemen from St. Louis and other parts of the West, and of a band of music from the fort, we passed over the road from Leavenworth to Fort Riley, on Saturday the 3d; had a sumptuous lunch at the latter place, with the usual speeches, and then rode to Junction City, three miles further West, and about 140 miles from Leavenworth. This thriving little city is the present terminus of the rails. It is situated near the junction of the Smoky Hill and Republican Forks of the Kansas River, and though hardly more than a few months old, has two or three hotels, a newspaper, about 100 houses and probably 800 inhabitants. The shops are well supplied with goods of fair quality and moderate price. A large proportion of the houses are substantially built of brick or of the excellent yellowish white limestone which abounds in this region. The population is overcrowded and rents are exorbitant.

I found the track of the new railway in excellent order, considering its youth, and I have no doubt that when it has been ballasted and leveled a little more, as it no doubt will be very soon, it will compare favorably with the best of our Eastern roads. There is an abundance of excellent ballast along the line, but the company have not yet sufficient rolling stock to transport it, the increase of their business far outrunning the increase in their equipment. They have now 15 locomotives on the road and 6 building. Their earnings during the month of October were about $2,000 per day, and their expenses not over 55 per cent. In the eastern part of the State, timber of various kinds, for fuel and cross-ties, is abundant, but beyond Lawrence there is no wood except a thin growth along the banks of the principal streams. Coal is obtained near Topeka, and a substance that was supposed to be coal is found about 40 miles beyond Fort Ellsworth, but our scientific companion, Dr. Leconte, who examined carefully the geology of the route, reports that it is only a worthless quality of lignite, and that there is no possibility of the existence of coal as far as we have been.

We spent Sunday at Lawrence, where some of us went to church and some went sight seeing. In the afternoon the bulk of our party took the cars for Wyandotte and Kansas City, on their way home. At Kansas City an enthusiastic reception awaited them. Its main features were a torchlight procession and a band of music. The excursionists were secured in carriages and paraded through the streets with the drums and fifes and trumpets at their head; and as it was justly suspected by the committee of arrangements that some of the tired travelers might be disposed to give them the slip and retire prematurely to their hotels, the hack-drivers had strict orders to permit no one to leave the line under any pretense whatever. One gentleman, eager for bed, put his head out of the coach window and asked the driver if they had not almost reached the hotel. "We ain't a-going to no hotel," was the consoling reply; "we're taking you a-pleasuring."

I was unfortunate enough to miss this hospitable treatment, having remained at Lawrence, with a few others, to organize a hunting party for the buffalo region. Late at night we went aboard our sleeping car, and daylight found us again at Fort Riley. We spent a day there, and at night made our first experiment in roughing it by trying to go to sleep on the bare floor. The experiment was not wholly successful, but subsequent practice made us nearly perfect. Early Tuesday morning we got ready for the start. The party numbered 11, beside John, our faithful steward and factotum. Our leader was Col. Charles B. Lamborn, Secretary of the Railway Company. We had four gentlemen from Philadelphia—Mr. Thomas C. Biddle, Dr. John Leconte, the naturalist and geologist; my friend Charles G. Leland, of *The Press*; and Mr. John C. Browne. Capt. John McCook, the youngest brother of the celebrated fighting family of Ohio; Capt. Wm. F. Colton, a Philadelphian, who is now working a Mississippi plantation; Mr. Yardley, lately director of a great rolling mill at Chattanooga; Mr. Collier and Mr. Lewis of St. Louis; and your correspondent completed the party. Our purpose was to visit Fort Zarah, on the Arkansas River, where some six or eight thousand Cheyennes, Arapahoes, and other Indians were then assembling in council, for the purpose of getting certain annuities from the United States, and discussing a new treaty. In the neighborhood of Fort Zarah we expected to find buffaloes, and the reports of an English, French and Prussian party, including Lord Southwell, Count Montague, and Baron Holstein, who had just returned from the plains, filled us with expectations of rare sport.

Gen. Custer lent us two four mule ambulances and three cavalry horses, with an orderly to take care of them. We mounted to our seats; the horsemen cantered gayly in advance; our two teamsters, Brigham and Peter, cracked their long whips and dexterously tickled the tender ears of the leading mules, and so with waving of hats and wishing of good speed from our friends of the garrison, we rattled out of the fort and down the dusty hill to the railway, and so on to Junction City. We kept along the stage route all day. It was terribly rough riding, across ravines, cañons and gulches, where the road seemed to have been made with an utter disregard to to the danger of upsetting. Brigham was an admirable driver, and brought us safely through all the perils of the way; but we felt some uneasiness even under his hands, when, having asked him if he ever upset his wagon, he answered with a laugh of derision, "You bet!" Brigham was a wonderfully rich character. A tall swarthy fellow, with long black hair, and keen little almond-shaped eyes, in a nondescript costume, composed chiefly of boots, buckskin gauntlets, a huge overcoat and cape, and a spreading *sombrero* decorated with a red ribbon, he was the beau ideal of a Santa Fe teamster, half Mexican and half Indian. Brigham, however, was a New-Yorker by birth; but he had lived in all manner of uncivilized places; had delved for gold at Pike's Peak; traded and gambled in New-Mexico; and driven mules across the plains. He was now in Uncle Sam's service as a teamster, but he said he was going to "resign" very soon. "And what will you do then?" I asked. "Not a darned thing as long as the money lasts." Brigham was full of anecdotes and had a fund of dry humor, which Meister Karl was especially fond of drawing out. He spoke a little Spanish, and we noticed that whenever he was particularly pleased with us he signified his approbation by using a few Spanish words.

Night-fall found us at Solomon City, a little city by anticipation at the junction of the Solomon Fork with the Smoky Hill, 35 miles west of Fort Riley. It is a hamlet of some 20 houses, and though it is only about a year old it seems to have made a vigorous start and is growing fast. It would grow a great deal faster, but for the same obstacle which keeps back so many other towns of the interior of Kansas—the want of lumber for building. While stone-masons command $10 a day few settlers can afford to build of the limestone which is so abundant all about here, and strange to say there are few or no lumber-yards. During our visit a speculative settler transported three car-loads of lumber from St. Louis to the little town of Salina, west of Solomon; and in less than a week every stick of it was sold at a good price.

We were introduced to a prominent citizen (by some one who did not know either of us), and proceeded to give him an account of our journey. It did not interest him much, and he remained unmoved even when we told him that we had performed the unparalleled feat of riding 1,500 miles in a single car, over roads of various gauges and across the two greatest rivers in America; but when Meister Karl spoke of your correspondent as one of the staff of THE TRIBUNE, he roused himself.

"No!" said he; "you don't mean it!"

"Yes, he is really."

"What, is he a correspondent?"

"He is one of the editors," rejoined Meister Karl.

"Oh, git out!"

Here I thought it proper to overcome my natural modesty, so far as to support my friend's assertions and the Solomon Citizen was finally convinced. "Why," said he, grasping my hand with an emphatic and affectionate air, "we know all about Horace Greeley out here; I think a heap of Horace Greeley, I can tell you." Then Meister Karl was introduced as managing editor of Forney's *Philadelphia Press*, and our skeptical friend was again overcome with delight and amazement; though he turned to me privately and asked in a whisper how *The Press* stood in politics. When I had assured him that it was a good Radical paper, he presented Meister Karl to another Solomonite in the following unique style: "Here, Mr. Jones, I want to introduce to you this 'ere Mr.-I-don't-care-what-the-devil-his-name-is, one of the editors of Forney's *Philadelphia Press*—a good Radical paper."

There was a hard rain in the night, and we made slow progress on the 7th, the roads being very heavy. We got dinner that day at Salina, 15 miles from Solomon City. It was to be our last "square meal," so we made the most of it. Salina is the capital of Saline County, and has 30 or 40 houses, 9 shops, and about 300 inhabitants. Like all the other towns out here it is overcrowded. I have no doubt it will soon be a large town, for the Pacific Railway is coming within a mile of it, and its situation, near the junction of the Saline Fork with the Smoky Hill, gives it the trade of three rich valleys, those of the Smoky Hill, the Saline, and the Solomon. Three years ago the business of the county did not exceed $5,000 per annum; now it amounts to $400,000. If Salina is not yet a city, it deserves to be, for it has made astonishing progress in one municipal privilege—that of taxation. The town and county tax this year is $3 75 on every $100, while in New-York it is not more than $2 [illegible]. The place was founded by your old correspondent Col. Phillips. We here strike the salt beds from which the river and county have their name and which extend as far west as our excursion took us, and I know not how much further. There is a salt spring near the town and a salt-well is now boring.

About dusk we arrived at Hobneck's ranch, 10 miles beyond Salina, and resolved to camp there for the night. We had supper *al fresco* by the light of a blazing fire, and we hoped to bivouac comfortably by its friendly warmth; but the prudent Hobneck was afraid of sparks, and argued, rather plausibly I must confess, that if the wind should arise in the night our fire might play havoc with his haystacks. So John poured water on the embers, and we composed ourselves to rest with a proud consciousness of superiority to the accidents of fortune. Alas! our pride was gone long before morning. The Doctor expressed the sentiments of the whole party when he declared that to be "the *meanest* night's rest he ever enjoyed." We awoke every now and then with the dew running off our faces like a shower-bath, the cold, damp air chilling the very marrow of our bones, the wolves howling in dismal chorus all around us, and the cayotes and prairie dogs swelling the nocturnal discord. It was horrible, horrible! By 4 o'clock our patience was exhausted. We one and all "got out of bed," and in a few moments we had a fire burning and were cracking jokes around it with even more than our usual hilarity. Young Gideon's rattling laugh spread contagious merriment through the circle. John set the coffee-pot on the coals; the genial Golly munched a soda biscuit and now and then cried "Goll darn this smoke;" Yardley and Lewis told stories; the Captain sang to us of the little lamb that followed Mary to school, shouting the battle-cry of freedom; and Meister Karl, in his very roughest bass (which is strong language, I assure you) chanted his favorite Indian lay of "The Great Muscolgee." Through all the merry trip I don't think we ever were merrier than during the reaction of those two comfortable hours before dawn. As soon as it was light, breakfast was made ready (we were reduced by this time to hard-tack and salt junk), the mules were caught and harnessed, and we mounted joyfully to our seats. "Vamos," shouts Brigham; and off we rattle. A sharp trot of 25 miles, still due west, brought us to Fort Ellsworth and to all the delights of the most cordial hospitality. What a glorious place this mean, dirty, desolate little frontier post seemed to us, with its shabby log huts and tents flapping in the cold wind, after our experience of the night before! How grateful were the kind attentions of the jolly major who made such capital toddies and pitched two big tents for us; the quartermaster who wanted to give us everything he had in the world; the commissary who replenished our stores; and the commandant who asked us to dinner! We met here Count Montague and one of the English tourists, Mr. Digby, fresh from the buffalo grounds and now on their way to the Indian council. They were enthusiastic in their praises of the sport, and the Count in particular gave a thrilling description of the "magnificent" moment when a fierce bull charged upon him, and just missed ripping his leg open by about half an inch. But we learned that there was no probability of our finding buffaloes near Fort Zarah, and that the council, moreover, had been postponed, and it was uncertain how soon it would open. So we determined to give up the Indians, and push on still farther west after the bisons. We borrowed four mu[illegible]

and another soldier, and after a good night's rest under canvas made an early start on Friday morning. We had traveled 69 miles from Fort Riley, and purposed going about 60 miles further. We arrived about dusk in a pouring rain at an overland stage station called Bunker Hill—probably because there is no hill anywhere near it. We had a note from Mr. Gillespie, the route agent, commending us to the hospitalities of the stables all along the line, so we readily got permission to pass the night with the horses. Three stalls were emptied and swept for us, clean hay was spread upon the floor, and we slept sweetly, four in a stall.

We wanted to buy some hay and corn at this ranch, but the hostlers are strictly forbidden to sell any forage, and our note from Gillespie was not thought sufficient to cover this case. "But if you *will* take it forcibly," said the head man, "I guess your party is the strongest." So we took it with most fierce and ruffianly countenances, paid for it, shook hands all round and rode away.

About noon we came to an engineer camp on Fossil Creek, where a party of soldiers and civilians under command of Mr. George T. Wickes, all picturesquely clad in big boots and dirty jackets, were surveying the proposed route of the Pacific railway. We learned that game could be found in abundance close at hand; indeed the camp was regularly supplied with fresh buffalo meat by a gallant and experienced hunter named Howland, who was attached to the party in his professional capacity; and as there was another Overland stage ranch close at hand, we made here our resting place, unpacked our stores and turned loose the tired mules. After dinner, under the guidance of the mighty Howland, we rode out about 15 miles to reconnoiter, preparatory to a grand hunt on the following day. The Colonel, the Planter, the master of the hunt and Benedict, bestrode their good steeds, while Meister Karl and I went with Brigham in the ambulance. Now let it be distinctly understood that we did not consider this a hunting party. Who ever heard of riding after a bison in a four-mule wagon? It is true that the ill-natured horsemen, who chanced in some way or other to get sight of two pitiful buffaloes that afternoon, but who let them escape and never saw any afterwards, were heard on several occasions to speak of this as a hunt; but Meister Karl and I, as the representatives of an unterrified press, indignantly deny that is was anything of the kind. The hunt did not come off until the next day. How the press acquitted itself then you shall learn in due time. That two buffaloes were seen, however, on the afternoon in question, we do admit. The cavaliers at once went after them, having first promised to circumvent the beasts and drive them toward the ambulance. Had this promise been kept, there is no doubt whatever that your correspondent would have slain both of them; but I regret to say that the perfidious game ignominiously ran away. Brigham got the best speed he could out of his mules (and no man can get more out of a team than Brigham), and kept us within sight of the chase for a mile or so. Then our companions were lost to view among the ravines. The pop of pistols and the crack of a rifle told us now and then that some of them at any rate still lived; perhaps they were shooting each other. The sun got low. We saw no advantage in driving over the grass after nothing, so we halted to await the horsemen's return. Presently, printed with alarming distinctness against the evening sky, a huge black object slowly came over a distant hill. Had our friends kept their promise? Was the buffalo at last advancing to meet his fate? We got out our rifles and looked at the triggers. The dark object grew every moment more and more "buffaloious" (as the Colonel used to say), and soon developed four legs and something very like a hump. It was evidently in low spirits. It dragged its reluctant feet. Clearly it had a presentiment of coming evil. Or—uncomfortable thought—was it getting ready for a charge? I thought of Count Montague's leg, and cocked my gun. Meister Karl (who is not to be trusted with firearms, being subject to rash impulses,) raised his carbine, whereupon the buffalo cried out, "Halloo!" The buffalo proved to be our friend Benedict. He said his horse would not go, and having been hopelessly distanced early in the race, he had given up in disgust. I thought his limbs appeared rather stiff, but he dismounted gracefully, and, with a reproachful look at his steed, got into the wagon. When the other horsemen came back they reported a "magnificent run," and swore that they had put several bullets into one of the buffaloes, and might have run him down had daylight lasted a little longer. With such meager glory as this we were fain to go home, it being the unanimous verdict of the party that their failure was entirely attributable to the absence of the representatives of the press.

The next morning a *genuine* hunt was organized. We started early, several of us driving with Brigham, so that the horses might be kept fresh for the chase. We had gone about eight miles, when the cavaliers in front halted, and the orderly with the led horses came hurrying back to the ambulance. "There are the buffs," shouted the Captain, "straight ahead of us!" And sure enough, about a mile and a half distant, we saw a herd of twelve. "Look to the right," said the imperturbable Howland. "Yonder is a much larger herd, but it's a good four mile distant." We could not make out the number, but it was probably not under 30 or 40. Two or three more soon appeared on the left. Later in the day we saw still another herd. In fact, we were in the midst of several small droves, and there was every prospect of as much sport as we wanted. After a little deliberation we determined to pursue the twelve buffaloes ahead. We got out of our carriage, filled our pockets with ammunition, mounted the mettlesome steeds, and went off at a slow trot. Young Gideon stayed in the wagon with Brigham, and Golly started out a-foot, preferring what he called a "still-hunt." Considering that the game was a long way off, and that a buffalo can outrun a horse, at least for several miles, we did not think his prospects very exciting, but we let him go.

If you keep to leeward of a buffalo you may get within half or quarter of a mile of him before he takes the alarm; so we went along cautiously, keeping in the ravines as much as we could, and slowly gaining upon the herd, which was all the while moving toward the north-west. We kept this up for three miles, when, just as we were riding up out of a deep ravine, Howland, who was ahead, turned quickly back, and motioned us to halt. We knew what his signal meant, and creeping silently up, we looked over the top of the divide. There in a ravine on the other side, not half-a-mile off, were the unsuspecting brutes. We now divided our forces. Howland, Yardley, and Meister Karl were to remain *perdus* where they stood, while Lewis, the Captain, and THE NEW-YORK TRIBUNE made a detour through the ravine, toward the right, and took the buffs on the flank. Then we would charge simultaneously, and drench the plains with gore. The detour, however, proved longer than any one expected, and before we got around the divide, our companions had started the game. What a splendid sight it was! The terrified buffaloes were tearing madly along, with a surging, up and down motion, like a ship in a storm, their eye-balls distended, and their nostrils gaping. They snorted, plunged, tossed their shaggy heads, and looked, as Meister Karl says, like the devil and the Democratic party combined in one. Behind them were the horsemen: Howland cool and unconcerned; Yardley, gallant, resolute, and energetic; *The Philadelphia Press* tearing madly on, rifle in hand, like an insane savage. I had a hard-trotting, hard mouthed, big-boned gray horse, horribly uncomfortable for a modest ride, and therefore habitually shunned by the rest of the party; but I had an assured confidence in his fitness for the chase, and he did not disappoint me. As soon as he saw the buffaloes, he bounded after them with a snort that was almost a scream, and put me in a few seconds near the head of the pursuit. The pace was magnificent! On we went, up and down the gulleys, through stony ravines, in and out, corkscrew fashion, among the holes of the prairie dogs, where a misstep would certainly have caused an overthrow and probably a broken neck. Meister Karl has the lead, and is almost into the herd. He raises his rifle; we watch to see several bulls drop dead; but the gun snaps harmlessly; it is out of order, and he hauls back to repair damages. In another moment we are all near enough to fire; and Lewis wounds one of the animals, a fine fat cow, in the near hind leg. She drops a little, a very little behind, hardly slackening her pace, but giving our orderly a chance to get in ahead of her and turn her off. Our object is to drive the game toward the ambulance, so that Young Gideon and Golly may have a shot at it; so we leave the eleven to their own devices, and all rush after the cow. A splendid race she led us. We could not get her back in the direction we wanted to. She bore off toward the right, where she doubtless knew the worst ravines were to be found, and plunged into cañons which any buffalo with a well-regulated mind would have gone out of her way to avoid. But we followed her boldly, galloping like madmen up and down declivities which seem to me, when I dream about that hunt, like perpendicular precipices several hundred feet high, tearing over stones and rocks, and firing the while almost as fast as we can load—which, with a horse on the full run, is not very fast. Lewis tries his pistol several times, but the buffalo does not mind it. I send a rifle-ball through the middle of her body, and she only runs the faster. She dashes up a hill, and Lewis and I (who have the best horses) are close behind her. She turns on us, and just at that moment a ball from the other side of the ravine whistles between us. The situation is getting unpleasant. We shy off gracefully to either side of the buffalo and give her another dose of lead, and at the same time gently remonstrate with our companions for trying to make game of us. Meanwhile the buffalo is off again, pitching headlong into a precipitous cañon some 60 feet deep. Meister Karl, the Captain and Yardley deliver a volley and the shots all tell, but the cow won't stop, though her hide by this time is pretty well riddled. We dash down the cañon, all except Howland, who to our surprise remains behind. We soon see his object. He throws himself from his horse, kneels upon one knee, and as the buffalo is running up the further side of the ravine, takes deliberate aim and fires. His bullet breaks her off hind leg and the four mile race is over. But she is still powerful for mischief. THE TRIBUNE puts a ballet into her brain, whereat she merely scowls and shakes her head. At last a shot through the heart completes the massacre, and our prize tumbles over on her side with 15 bullets in her body. Meister Karl rushes in and with savage glee cuts her throat. Howland and Lewis immediately take off the hide, and with assistance from others of the party, who seem to have been born with a genius for butchering, slice off the tender hump and cut the carcass into quarters. We are still at work when the ambulance arrives, and with it the indefatigable Golly, who, if he did not see much of our chase, got a shot at a buffalo of his own, and wounded it too. Brigham now builds us a fire, our cooking utensils are brought forth from the ambulance, a pool of good water is found among the rocks, and we are soon dining sumptuously off the meat which we have killed, seasoned with soda crackers and a bottle of pickles.

We slept in our stalls again that night, and enjoyed the sound repose of the virtuous until toward midnight, when the stage stopped to change horses, and we had an irruption of cold and profane drivers into our bedroom. They looked upon us with evident disfavor. "Who are these kedoucks?" shouted the crossest of them. Our host, the head hostler, answered that we were the proprietors of the Pacific Railway (a remark which did him great honor), and that we had an order from Mr. Gillespie permitting us to sleep there. "I don't care," rejoined the driver; "Gillespie's order ain't worth a darn for keeping animals out in the cold, and these cusses here have just got to double up." Finding that we had a warm friend in the hostler, we feigned sleep and let them fight the matter out. The result was that we were not disturbed. The men took the lantern and went out to change the horses. Presently the door opened, and we heard a mighty rush and trampling of many hoofs, a neighing, kicking, and plunging; and then a rustling of the hay at our feet. Good heavens! the drivers had turned the horses in loose and shut the door. I awoke Meister Karl with a cry, and we drew up our toes and shouted. It was totally dark, and we did not know how near the danger was, but we felt that it was close to us, and fancied that it was coming closer and closer. Whenever a horse moved, we shouted at him till he stopped. So we passed what seemed to us an hour but was really only ten minutes, crouching in the furthest corners of our stalls. Then the hostlers came back with the light, and I saw in my bed, looking down upon me in great amazement, two enormous horses—I really think the biggest horses in the world—which seemed to be about the size of elephants. In fact, you don't know how big a horse can look until you have seen him standing over you.

Our journey home, which began the next day, I have left myself no space to describe. I should like to tell how Meister Karl was adopted into the Kaw tribe of Indians, and how an infatuated squaw wanted to give him her papoose; what a good time we had with those delightful officers at Fort Riley and Fort Ellsworth, and those splendid railroad men at Wyandotte; how for three days and nights we lived like princes at St. Louis, and were dined and fêted, and taken to see things; and how we finally came home, fat and happy, in the same car which carried us from Philadelphia to Fort Riley. But there is an incident which I must relate, as a warning to all literary men, who, without the requisite mental balance, aspire to the carrying of rifles. Passing through Junction City on our way home, we espied an omnibus apparently going to Fort Riley, and all the party except myself got into it. I stayed with Brigham. But the omnibus was not going to the Fort; it stopped at the railway station. The disappointed tourists must overtake the ambulance or walk. They shouted, but we did not hear. They fired their rifles, but rifles make very little noise out on the plains, and the ambulance still rattled along. "Give me a gun," exclaimed Meister Karl, "and I'll hit the infernal wagon." So some one gave him a gun, and in a second I heard something close behind me, like a sneeze and a whistle combined. Brigham pulled up suddenly, with an oath, and asked, "Do you know what that was?" I told him I didn't. "Well, it was a rifle-ball, and it passed about four inches from your head." We looked out, and saw our friends running toward us. They were very much shocked when they found there was a passenger in the wagon. They had supposed no one was in it except Brigham, and so the [illegible] had been aimed at the back part, and had hit it, too. And this reminds me of what happened to an officer at Fort Ellsworth one day. He was out hunting, and fired at what he supposed to be a buffalo. It proved to be an Indian on horseback; but the degraded, mean-spirited savage, instead of rushing upon his assailant with tomahawk and scalping-knife, thought he might make a little something out of the mistake, and ran up, shouting for "Much tobacco! much tobacco!" by way of indemnity. So when Meister Karl appeared, I jumped out of the ambulance screaming "Much tobacco!"—at least I would have done so if I had thought of it. Brigham said he thought for a moment he was back among the Comanches; but when he saw where the shot came from, he knew well enough which of the party must have fired it. We rode along in silence for about ten minutes, Brigham nursing a good tempered wrath, but withal a great deal amused at the incident, which just agreed with his idea of a practical joke. At last he said: "I wish there was a hill or something on this road, and hang me if I wouldn't upset the whole of you!" When we bade him good bye at the Fort that afternoon, he parted with Meister Karl in the most affectionate manner, that gentleman having evidently raised himself enormously in Brigham's esteem by nearly killing his bosom friend. I fancied, too, that Brigham was rather provoked with me for blunting the point of the joke by surviving.

ABOLITION OF THE TAX ON COTTON.

THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE DECLINES TO RECOMMEND THE MEASURE.

The Chamber of Commerce met yesterday, pursuant to adjournment, to consider a memorial to Congress on the subject of abolishing the tax on cotton which was presented at the last stated meeting and laid over for further consideration. The memorial urges Congress to enact the immediate and entire abolition of the tax on cotton, and strives to show, by tabular and other statements, that the tax of three cents a pound on American cotton has virtually thrown the material out of European markets, or at least deprived it of much of its former influence in those markets. Mr. Jonathan Sturges having called the Chamber to order,

Mr. MAURY spoke briefly in support of the Memorial. He was opposed to those gentlemen who would continue longer to play into the hands of Great Britain, and to him it seemed the duty of the Chamber to urge the immediate repeal of the tax on American cotton.

REMARKS OF MR. ELLIOT C. COWDIN.

Mr. ELLIOT C. COWDIN, in reply to Mr. Maury, said:

MR. PRESIDENT: After the full and able discussion of of the subject now before the Chamber, to which we have listened on this and former occasions, I am somewhat loth to detain you with any remarks of mine. But, deeming this one of the most important questions that has been before us for many months, I crave your indulgence while I examine it somewhat in detail. I purpose to reply to some of the arguments adduced, and especially in the proposed Memorial to Congress in favor of a total repeal of the tax on cotton. *First:* The tax has been pronounced unjust and oppressive, because no other agricultural product is burdened in like manner. To this it may be replied, that in the Northern States our industry is multiform and runs in various channels. A few of the less important and least productive of these branches of industry may escape taxation. But the great majority are in some form heavily burdened. Our chief products are manufactures. These are almost exclusively taxed 2, 3, 5 and 6 per cent, and in many instances articles are taxed two or three times over; that is, many articles are taxed which subsequently make up a part of other articles, in which they are again taxed in the completed form. On the other hand, certain States see fit to devote their capital and labor almost exclusively to the cultivation of Cotton. If this commodity is to be exempt from taxation then the industry of those States is in the main relieved from the common burden, while those which diversify theirs are compelled to bear almost the whole financial weight of the Government. It does not weaken the argument that the commodity in question is an agricultural product. If a community choose to devote themselves almost wholly to one kind of agriculture, this is no reason why they should be exempted from paying their fair share of taxes, merely because no direct assessment is laid on the comparatively unimportant agricultural products of communities that devote nineteen-twentieths of their capital and energies to commerce, trade and manufactures, all of which are subject to a system of taxation as onerous as it is searching. *Second:* This has been declared inexpedient, because it discourages production at home, and encourages it abroad. A full answer to this objection would open a field of inquiry too wide for me to even glance over now. Waiving for the present the question whether this tax does not ultimately fall upon the consumer rather than the producer, it ought to be sufficient to say that this objection will apply not only to the tax on cotton, but equally well to taxation upon anything produced in this country. The principle contended for would virtually abolish all internal taxation. If cotton ought to be exempted from taxes because it is a product of domestic industry, then taxes upon a great variety of other articles should be abolished and the burden lightened, in many particulars where they now press with crushing weight. To illustrate; there is scarcely any class of persons or any branch of business in the North that does not come within the sweep of our internal revenue system. It covers the whole field of manufactures and the mechanic arts. In the North, society is organized for more effectively for production, than in the South. Here, all the members of the household, in many of the lighter branches of industry, are employed, with only a trifling outlay of capital outside of the labor and skill contributed by the individuals of the family. That these persons should be loaded with taxation that tends to crush out small enterprises, and to concentrate manufacturing in the hands of heavy capitalists is, indeed, a hardship. A premium is hereby offered to capital, inasmuch as it enables the capitalist to manufacture all the parts which enter into his product, paying an ad valorem tax on the completed article, while the poor man, who is obliged to purchase the [illegible] that enter into his manufacture, buys them with the tax [illegible], and must then sell the completed article with another [tax a]dded thereto. Under this system our artisans now struggle [illegible] tendency of which is to reduce them to th[e illegible]-ridden level of European populations. Again, our system [of t]axation takes account of incomes so small that hardly any p[erson], even the humblest, escapes. The tax on income deri[ved] from the toil and skill of laborers, mechanics, professional men, and, for the most part, the entire class [whose] capital consists only of labor or skill throughout the North, is the most unequal and oppressive of all taxes. On the other hand, taxes on the material products, or on property, or [illegible] derived from real estate, have a substantial and cu[illegible] [illegible], not dependent on the future of the individual ow[ner]. [illegible]ton, for example, is a product that in whosoever hand[s it may] be, represents a certain and fixed capital that canno[t illegible], or against the loss of which insurance can be effecte[d illegible] death, sickness, casualties or misfortune of any kind [illegible] moment cut off the receipt of nine-tenths of the incom[e illegible] paying class in the North. This list of industries and [illegible] now grievously burdened might be greatly extended—[illegible] let these specified suffice. While these are now crushed [und]er burdens unknown and undreamed of six years ago, and wh[ich] have been rendered necessary by the vast expenditures demanded to save our country from distinction, pray tell me what is "King Cotton," and what the peculiar services he rendered the nation during these six terrible years, that he should be exempted from contributing *his* share of the money needed to repair the breach, to build up the waste places and to restore the ancient land marks? Let it not be forgotten, that while almost every branch of industry and class of persons in the North come within the circle of our revenue system, comparatively few at the South fall within its provisions. Suppose the tax on cotton really does fall upon the producer, which I do not admit, it is about the only tax they do or can pay to the Government at present, except the trifle paid indirectly on their small consumption of imports—a species of impost of which the North, because of its far greater consumption, now pays immeasurably more in proportion to the population of the two sections. For some time to come comparatively very little can be realized from the South, either from incomes, manufactures or customs. If we cannot resort to this special tax on cotton, and which after all ultimately falls on the consumer rather than the producer, then are the springs of contribution to the common fund of the country from a large section of the Republic effectually dried up. *Third:* This tax is objected to on the alleged ground that it is injurious to the planters and freedmen, because it obstructs the cultivation of the soil and the employment of laborers. I doubt whether the dusky bondmen of the extreme South, in their wildest imaginings ever dreamed that the time would come when they would regard exclusion from the cotton fields as an injury personal to themselves! If I mistake not they never looked upon it as a paradise, invaluable as is the product. As to the women, at all events, I question whether, when they found the gates of the cotton field closing behind them, they lamented, as Eve did when shut out of Eden. Seriously, though, it seems to me, that the superior strength, enterprise, wealth and prosperity of the North, as compared with the South, is largely due to the multifarious pursuits to which it devotes its capital, skill and labor. If the South would essentially benefit her planters and freedmen, and indeed all classes of her people, let her copy our example, diversify her industry, and

"Learn to labor and to wait."

Thus would she eventually develop her resources, lure capital and skill from the North and from abroad, which she so much needs, and soon become not merely a planting, but a commercial, and manufacturing community, and thereby largely increase her wealth and population. Let her realize that it is not by the abolition of a small tax on cotton, that she is to regain her coveted *status* in the Union, but rather by imbibing the spirit of the times, and adopting herself to the new order of things. Let her be mindful that labor should be elevated, that work, whether of the head or of the hand, is honorable; that it is the first necessity of man, the primeval law, and, above all, let her find inspiration and consolation in the familiar words of Poor Richard:

"He who by the plow would thrive,
Himself must either hold or drive."

Fourth: As to the statement made by one of the advocates of the repeal of this tax, that previous to the war more than nine-tenths of all the cotton consumed in Great Britain was of American growth, while during the past year only some three-eighths of it was imported from this country, this may be so. I do not dispute the fact. But has it anything to do with the question before us? It is not the tax on cotton that has curtailed the supply, but the civil convulsions at the South, which impelled the planters to devote their lands to raising grain for the armies of the Confederacy, instead of cotton for the looms of England. The dearth of cotton for export is therefore due, not to this small tax, but to the great Rebellion which rendered the tax necessary. *Fifth:* The tax has been declared unnecessary and unimportant as a means of hastening the payment of the National Debt. In my judgment the tax was not laid with any special reference to the discharge of the debt, but to lighten and equalize current burdens. From the Report of the Secretary of the Treasury it appears that during the fiscal year closing June 30, we raised from customs (omitting fractions) $180,000,000, and from internal revenue $310,000,000. Of this aggregate of $490,000,000, how much, excepting the proceeds of the cotton tax, which the memorial now before us fixes at $20,000,000, was paid by the cotton-raising States? The merest trifle! Need I ask the planters of those States what event in our annals has rendered it necessary that the hand of the Government should annually wring this enormous sum from the capital, the skill and the labor of the North—a sum which Hamilton, Gallatin and the other early Secretaries of the Treasury would have deemed fabulous, and the possibility of its collection, practically from one section of the country, a chimera and a dream, and whose prompt payment has astonished even ourselves, and filled the financiers of Europe and the world with wonder. Need I summon these planters to the bar of History to tell us what part they and their several States bore in the series of transactions which have piled upon us this colossal debt, and precipitated upon us these grinding taxes? Surely they, in their sober second thought, will not seek to evade this trivial tribute to the common fund of a Republic preserved by us for the heritage of both North and South through all time. The tax on cotton is almost the only one that can now be collected in the Southern States. Ought it to be abated? For one, I protest, that while our system of taxation reaches every branch of business and every class of citizens in the North, laying its hand heavily upon high and low—upon whatever we eat, drink or wear—upon the rich man's wine and the poor man's salt—upon the trousseau of the bride and the coffin of the dead—one entire section of the country, and one special product to which we are directly indebted for those calamities for which we are now paying so heavy a price, ought not to be relieved from bearing their share of the common burden. I have spoken of the inequalities of the present system of taxation. If there is to be a modification of the system by the repeal of any taxes, let it be done with justice and wisdom—not for a section or a class, but with reference to the interest of the whole people. Complaints arise from all quarters. The cotton-growers ask for a total repeal of the tax on their product; the silk manufacturers of New-Jersey have just memorialized Congress for a tariff that shall increase the duty on their products—though the actual impost is now 60 per cent, and, by adding thereto the premium on [illegible] and the freight and other incidental charges, the present protection is well nigh, if not wholly, unprecedented. When the barbers of England petitioned Parliament to pass an act compelling people to wear wigs, so as to protect and foster their trade—the demand was scarcely more unreasonable. To neither of these extremes should the Chamber of Commerce of New-York commit itself. We are to pass judgment on this class of subjects as merchants, with a single eye to equity, and imbued with a spirit of true patriotism. Certainly it is to be hoped that the day is not far distant when this tax on cotton may be reduced. And I am free to say that so soon as the taxes on Northern products are materially modified, and the tariff on imports somewhat reduced, and so soon as the taxes and duties, home and foreign, on the articles which enter into ship and steamer building are repealed, so that we can regain our old position as a first-class commercial Power, and again cover every sea with our flag, then may the tax on cotton be wholly abolished. In the mean time, it is fitting and proper that this Chamber should examine these questions carefully, discuss them calmly, and pass its judgment upon them. And I am gratified at the interest manifested in the important subject now under debate, by the unusually full attendance here to-day. *Sixth:* I had almost forgotten to say that the tax on cotton has been pronounced, in the proposed memorial, of questionable constitutionality. Has the Supreme Court of the United States, the authoritative tribunal of the nation, doubted its constitutionality? If not, why should we? Sir, this invocation of the Constitution on all occasions, to which we are becoming so addicted as a people, tends to cheapen and render commonplace that great instrument. Let it suffice to remark that if, because this tax is assessed on an article that may be exported, it is therefore unconstitutional, then, to lay a tax on any article which may be exported, would render taxes on all portable commodities liable to the same objection—a proposition too sweeping to find advocates either within or outside of this Chamber. Finally, our towering National Debt confronts us everywhere, and casts its shadow far down the vista of the future. The financial burdens it necessitates severely tax the purses and the patience of all classes. The rich feel their weight in all business pursuits. The poor feel their pressure in every purchase made to supply their daily wants. But they are absolutely necessary and inevitable. They are the price paid to ransom the life of the nation. When the South calmly contemplates the cause that originated this debt, and its consequent taxation, will she hesitate to contribute her aid to bear the common burden? Though it would be folly to attempt to disguise the fact that the Rebellion caused this special impost on cotton, it is not levied as a punishment, but as a necessity. Speaking of the French Revolutionists, Edmund Burke said: "Their resistance was made to concession; their revolt was from protection; their blow was aimed at the hand holding out graces, favors and immunities." Though the words of the great orator may be applied with truth and propriety to our Rebellion, the North, not only victorious but magnanimous, would rather tender forgiveness to the South than inflict injury upon her. We seek not to punish for past offenses, but rather to encourage fraternal relations between recently hostile sections by demanding guarantees for the future protection of the whole country. But we have a right to insist that the heavy financial burdens incurred in preserving our benign institutions for the common benefit of loyalists and insurgents shall be borne alike by both. For these reasons, Mr. President, I earnestly hope that the memorial to Congress in favor of abolishing the tax on cotton, now under discussion, may not be adopted by this Chamber.

The previous question was here called, and by an almost unanimous vote the Chamber indefinitely postponed the further consideration of the subject, and adjourned.

THIRTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

SENATE, Dec. 19.—Mr. Harris (Rep., N. Y.) reported from the Judiciary Committee the House bill to fix the time for the regular meeting of Congress, with an amendment. The bill, as passed by the House, is as follows:

SECTION 1. That in addition to the present regular times of meeting of Congress, there shall be a meeting of the XLth Congress of the United States, and of each succeeding Congress thereafter, at 12 o'clock meridian on the 4th of March, the day on which the term begins for which the Congress is elected, except that when the 4th of March occurs on Sunday, then the meeting shall take place at the same hour on the next succeeding day.

SEC. 2. That section 17 of the act approved July 28, 1866, entitled an act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the year ending June 30, 1867, and for other purposes, be so amended that no Senator or Representative in Congress, who has been a member of the Congress next immediately preceding, shall receive any allowance for mileage for traveling to the place of meeting to attend such additional session provided for in the foregoing section.

The Judiciary Committee recommend that the second section be stricken out and the following inserted in lieu of it:

That no person who was a member of the previous Congress shall receive any compensation or mileage for going to or returning from the additional session provided for by the foregoing bill.

The bill was ordered to be printed. Mr. Trumbull (Rep., Ill.) from the Judiciary Committee reported the House bill regulating the duties of Clerk of the House of Representatives, with an amendment striking out the penal clause. Ordered to be printed as amended. Mr. Ross (Rep., Kansas) introduced the following resolution which was tabled and ordered to be printed:

Whereas, The Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, proposed at the first session of the XXXIXth Congress, known as "Article 14," and submitted to the several States for their acceptance or rejection, not having been accepted by a constitutional majority of the States, and certain sections of the country lately in rebellion being deemed thereby to danger of falling into a state of anarchy, by reason of their having no systematic civil government; therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled, That the Joint Committee on Reconstruction be directed to inquire into the expediency of establishing such regulations for the government of such districts lately in rebellion against the United States as shall have refused, or may hereafter refuse, to adopt the said proposed amendment as may be found necessary for the preservation of the peace, and the protection of society, and the interests of the Government in those districts.

Mr. Williams (Rep., Oregon) introduced a bill granting lands to the State of Oregon, to aid in the construction of a military road and telegraph line through the Coast Mountains, from Portland to Osteria; which was referred. Mr. Williams also introduced a similar bill for military and post roads through the Coast Mountains from Astoria to Sallawook, which was also referred. Mr. Sumner (Rep., Mass.) offered a resolution which was agreed to, instructing the Secretary of State to communicate any information in his possession as to the progress made in collecting the products and also the weights, measures and coins of the United States for exhibition in Paris in April next. Mr. Pomeroy (Rep., Kansas) introduced a bill which was referred to equalize the currency, as follows:

Whereas, The existence of the two circulating mediums of similar character composing the currency of the United States, both based upon the same ultimate security, to wit, the credit of the Government, has been productive of much commercial inconvenience; therefore

Be it enacted, &c., That the notes of all National Banking Associations established under the act approved February 25, 1863, to provide a National currency secured by a pledge of United States stocks, and to provide for the circulation and redemption thereof, and the redemption of whose issues have been secured by the deposit of United States bonds with the Treasurer of the United States, shall be a legal tender for all dues to the same extent, and for all purposes for which Treasury Notes are so made by the act approved February 25, 1862, making United States notes a legal tender.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted* that the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to redeem and cancel Treasury notes issued by the authority of the Government to an extent not exceeding $1,000,000 per month during the year 1867, and to an extent not exceeding $2,000,000 per month during the year 1868.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted* that Section 1 of the act approved April 12, 1866, to amend an act to provide ways and means to support the Government, approved March 3, 1865, by which the Treasurer was authorized to redeem and cancel $4,000,000 per month of the Treasury notes aforesaid, is hereby repealed.

Mr. Wilson (Rep., Mass.) offered the following resolution, which was agreed to:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Interior be directed to report for the information of the Senate what goods have been purchased in open market by the Indian Bureau since the 1st day of January last, said report to specify in detail the number or quantity of articles purchased, the prices paid or agreed to be paid therefor, and the name of the party or parties from whom the same were purchased.

The Senate bill authorizing the appointment of Pension agents by the President, by and with the consent of the Senate, amended by the House to limit the number of agencies to three for each State or Territory, and providing that no additional agencies shall be established in any State where the pensions paid do not exceed $500,000 for the preceding year, and that the term of all agents appointed since January 1, 1866, shall expire within 30 days after the passage of the act, and the President be required to nominate their successors within 15 days from the same date, was reported from the Judiciary Committee, with amendments substituting the act of the 1st of January, 1865, for that of January 1, 1866, and striking out all thereafter, and inserting a provision that the terms of all other pension agents shall expire when successors shall be duly appointed. A resolution was presented by Mr. Williams (Rep., Oregon) which was adopted, directing the Committee on Foreign Relations to inquire into the expediency of regulating and restricting the immigration and copopulation of Chinese into the United States. The Nebraska bill was then taken up. Mr. Howard (Rep., Mich.) took the floor in advocacy of the bill and opposition to the amendment of Mr. Brown, that "the act shall take effect only upon the fundamental condition that there shall be no denial of the elective franchise on account of color in Nebraska. He (Mr. Howard) did not agree with the Senator from Massachusetts, that it was a violation of the Declaration of Independence to deny the franchise to colored persons. He did not regard the right to vote as a natural right, but as a constitutional right. He saw no remedy but universal suffrage for the condition of affairs that now existed in the South; yet he was careful as a member of the Committee on Reconstruction in presenting the pending Constitutional Amendment to Congress to leave the regulation of suffrage to the States. Mr. Wilson (Rep., Mass.) moved to amend Mr. Brown's amendment by providing for the ratification of the fundamental condition of no exclusion from political rights on account of color by the Legislature of Nebraska, instead of, as in Mr. Brown's amendment, by the people of the Territory. After considerable discussion the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.—Mr. Maynard (Rep., Tenn.) corrected a statement made by him in debate on Monday relative to a demand made by the Governor of North Carolina on the Governor of Tennessee for the person of Capt. Nelson, indicted in the former State for murder arising out of the performance of military duties under Gen. Stoneman. The present acting Governor of North Carolina (Worth) has since assured him that he had made no such demand on the Governor of Tennessee. It was possible that he (Maynard) might have been mistaken, but he had certainly understood the facts to be as he originally stated them. Mr. Hubbard (Rep., West Va.) introduced a joint resolution authorizing medals to be distributed to honorably discharged soldiers from the State of West Virginia, through the mails, free of postage. Read three times and passed. On motion of Mr. Phelps (Dem., Md.), the Committee on Ways and Means was instructed to inquire into the expediency of modifying the Internal Revenue law, so as to dispense with the tax on gross receipts. On motion of Mr. Wentworth (Rep., Ill.), the President was requested to furnish copies of all papers in his possession touching the case of Col. Geo. St. Leger Grenfel, convicted by Military Commission, as one of the leaders in a conspiracy to release the Rebel prisoners at Camp Douglas, Chicago, and burn the city, and sentenced to death therefor, which sentence was commuted into imprisonment for life, and whose full pardon was now recommended by the Florida Legislature. The bill reported by Mr. McRuer (Rep., Cal.) from the Committee on Public Lands, to amend the act granting lands to Oregon to aid the construction of a military road from Eugene City to the eastern boundary of Oregon, was taken up, read for the third time, and, by a vote of 70 to 20, passed. A bill was also reported by Mr. McRuer, granting lands to the State of Oregon for the construction of a military wagon road from Dalles City, on the Columbia River, to Fort Boise, on Snake River. After being amended, so as not to include any mineral lands, the bill was passed—76 to 3[illegible]. Mr. Holmes (Rep., N. Y.) reported back a bill to amend the second section of the act to authorize the Legislatures of Illinois, Arkansas, Louisiana and Tennessee to sell school lands. The bill proposes to permit these Legislatures to lease for 15 years mineral lands contained in the grants. Mr. Ashley (Rep., Ohio) said he should not vote for any bill recognizing any of those Rebel Legislatures or bogus States. He suggested a proviso that the act should not apply to any of the late Rebel States. The amendment was agreed to and the bill passed. The House, in Committee of the Whole, resumed the consideration of the Appropriation bill. Mr. Grinnell (Rep., Iowa) moved to strike out the paragraph "For Clerical Assistants in the Executive Department," and the words "Clerk of Pardons." He did so in view of the improper use of the pardoning power, and referred to the fact that the greatest pirate of the country had received a pardon, and had been elected Professor of Moral Philosophy in a Southern College. Mr. Scofield (Rep., Pa.) sustained the amendment, and said he had learned that all the pardons sent South by Adams Express Company were marked with the letters or figures C. O. D. $300, and that the sum was collected on each of them. The amendment was agreed to. Mr. Benjamin moved to add to the paragraph appropriating $6,000,000 for Collectors and Assessors the following resolution:

Provided, That no Assessor or Collector, not appointed to fill a vacancy caused by death or resignation, shall be entitled to and paid any portion of the salary pertaining to the office, until confirmed by the Senate.

An animated discussion here ensued, during which the course of the President during the recent political canvass was reviewed, and his removal from office. Mr. Farnsworth (Rep., Ill.) finally moved to strike out the whole paragraph, which was agreed to. On motion of Mr. Harding (Rep., Ill.), an amendment was adopted directing preference to be given of appointments to persons in indigent circumstances, and the dependents of those who had fallen in the service of the country. Pending the discussion on the appropriation for seeds to be distributed by the Agricultural Department, the Committee rose. On motion of Mr. Denny (Rep., Washington Territory) the President was requested to communicate all correspondence between our Government and that of Great Britain on the subject of the joint occupancy of the island of San Juan, Washington Territory. On motion of Mr. Randall (Rep., Ky.), the President was requested to communicate any further information in reference to the occupation of Mexican territory by United States troops, that he may have received since his message of the 6th inst., on the same subject. Adjourned.

SENATE, Dec. 20.—Mr. Ross (Rep., Kansas) called up the joint resolution on Reconstruction offered by him the day before, and addressed the Senate at some length in favor of universal suffrage, and advocating the right of Congress to establish civil governments in the States lately in rebellion on a basis of loyal citizens without distinction of color. The resolution was referred. Mr. Pomeroy (Rep., Kansas) introduced a bill to secure the speedy construction of the Union Pacific Railroad, Southern Branch, and telegraph lines, and to secure to the Government the use of the above for military and postal purposes. It provides for the issue of six per cent bonds of $1,000 each, to run 20 years, on the completion of each 20 consecutive miles, at the rate of 16 such bonds per mile. The road is to run via Fort Riley and Fort Smith, the Valley of the Neosho and Grand and Arkansas Rivers. Mr. Wilson (Rep., Mass.) presented the following joint resolution, which was referred:

Whereas, The practice of inflicting corporal punishment for offenses against the laws and municipal regulations is barbarous in character and degrading in practice, and whereas, in the present unsettled state of civil affairs in the States lately in rebellion, the freedmen in their helplessness are liable to be subjected to this barbarous and degrading punishment, which would in the existing condition of affairs endanger social order and all industrial interests; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the President of the United States be and he is hereby authorized and directed to instruct the officers of the Army and Navy and of the Freedmen's Bureau to prohibit and prevent the infliction of corporal punishment for any crimes, misdemeanors or offenses by any pretended civil authority in any State lately in rebellion, until the civil government of such State shall have been reorganized, ratified and guaranteed by the Congress of the United States.

Mr. Henderson (Rep., Mo.) offered a resolution which he said was made necessary by a dispatch from Gov. Fletcher that the President be requested to inform the Senate whether since the 1st of December, 1866, he has caused troops in the service of the United States to be marched into the interior of Missouri for any purpose, and if so, to indicate the reasons for such orders, whether they were issued on application of the Governor or Legislature of said State. At the request of several Senators the dispatch was read, which asserted that Gen. Grant had sent troops to Lexington, Mo., and protests against such interference, unless asked by the Governor himself, and concluded by a request to Congress to instruct the President to withdraw said troops. The resolution was adopted. The Nebraska bill was then taken up, and pending the consideration of a motion to postpone it until the 7th day of January, the Senate adjourned to January 3.

HOUSE.—Mr. Williams (Rep., Pa.), from the Committee on the Judiciary, read a report in the case of the arrest and detention under a civil process of Charles V. Culver, the Representative from the XXth District of Pennsylvania, proving by reference to Parliamentary history and precedents that such an arrest and detention was a breach of privilege, and closing with a resolution directing the Speaker to issue his warrant to the Sergeant-at-Arms, commanding him to deliver forthwith the Hon. Charles V. Culver, detained in a civil suit, from the custody of the Sheriff or Jailor of Venango County, or any other person or persons presuming to hold or detain him, and to make return to the House of such warrant, with the manner of its execution. The resolution was adopted. Mr. Delano (Rep., Ohio), on obtaining leave, introduced a resolution directing that, until otherwise ordered, it should be unlawful for any officer of the United States Government to pay any account, claim, or demand against the Government accruing prior to the 13th of April, 1861, in favor of any person who promoted, encouraged, or in any manner sustained the late Rebellion, or in favor of any person who, during such Rebellion, was not known to be opposed thereto, and distinctly in favor of its suppression. Read three times and passed. Mr. Stevens (Rep., Pa.) offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of seven be appointed to report a bill to establish a system of free common schools for the District of Columbia, from which no child six years old or more, residing in the said District, shall be excluded, except for improper conduct; the schools to be supported by taxes impartially levied on the assessable property of the District, together with such fixed annual appropriation as Congress may grant.

On motion of Mr. Donnelly (Rep., Minn.), the Secretary of War was requested to communicate the report of Major-Gen. Warren of the surveys, made under his supervision during the past season, of the Upper Mississippi and its tributaries, including the Minnesota, Connor, and Zeamore Rivers, with a view to the improvement of the navigation of the same. The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union. Mr. Hise (Dem., Ky.), spoke at some length against the power of Congress to territorialize the late rebellious States. Mr. Lawrence (Rep., Ohio), followed with an argument in support of his proposition to reduce the salaries of Senators and Members of Congress. He said he had introduced and would urge the passage of two bills, one to repeal the act of July last concerning salaries, so as to restore the salary to what it was before the increase, but having the mileage reduced one-half. A desultory debate followed, during which Mr. Cobb (Rep., Wis.) stated that he had voted against the bill increasing the members' salaries, and stated that he had not drawn the extra compensation, neither would he do so unless compelled to by the House. Mr. Driggs (Rep., Mich.) thought the increased compensation a matter of justice, considering the increased prices of the necessaries of life, and that his constituents had taken the same view of it, for they gave him an increased majority. The Committee then rose. The Speaker presented a message from the President, in reply to the House resolution of the 4th of December, requesting information relative to the attempts of Santa Anna and Ortega to organize armed expeditions within the United States for the purpose of overthrowing the National Government of the Republic of Mexico, transmitting reports from the Secretary of State, which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs. A report was also presented from the Sergeant-at-Arms, in the case of Mr. Culver, stating that he had taken him from the custody of the Sheriff of Venango Co., Pa., and that Mr. Culver was now in possession of his seat as a member of the House. The report was laid on the table. On motion of Mr. Julian (Rep. Ind.), the Select Committee on Direct Taxes and Forfeited and Abandoned Lands in the late Rebel States was instructed to inquire whether the registers or receivers of public land offices in any of such States had hindered or obstructed the execution of the Homestead act, and whether any person, white or colored, who was entitled to the benefits of such act had been wrongfully prevented from availing himself thereof, by any officer or agent of the Government, or by any person whomsoever. On motion of Mr. Spalding (Rep., Ohio), the Committee of Ways and Means was instructed to inquire into the expediency of exempting from tariff duties timber and lumber for ship building, and firewood for steamers navigating Northern lakes and rivers, when imported by the party using it for such purposes. The House then adjourned to Jan. 3.

Corporal punishment has long been the common penalty for petty offenses in the South. Until lately it was prevalent in the most northern of the Border States, surviving the auction block, as a last relic of barbarism. The disgust with which the actual operations of the whipping-post inspired our soldiers in North and South Carolina led to several military orders prohibiting its further use. But inveterate advocates of the whip and of mean wages have come as far as Washington to beg that the whipping-post be continued. It is cheaper, they think, to scourge a criminal, and let him go a more wretched vagabond than he ever made himself, than to maintain him at the public expense; hence, a great business in cuts and bruises, and iron-stringed cats-o'-nine-tails, is done at the Southern whipping-post. Mr. Wilson's resolution, introduced on the 20th in the Senate, is an effort to put a stop to these legal barbarities. The rescue of a negro at Raleigh from the pillory, by a U. S. officer, is mentioned in our news to-day. It meets the spirit of Mr. Wilson's resolutions exactly.

The impression appears to be general in the House of Representatives that the bill to increase salaries having been passed at the last session, the members are legally obliged to accept the extra sum. We assure them that no penalties will be enforced against any member who declines the money. The method by which Congress secured that extra pay was especially discreditable because it was cowardly. The people expect to see the act raising the salaries repealed, and the mileage cut down to a decent figure. Had it not been for the transcendent importance of other subjects, the recent elections would have convinced even Mr. Driggs that the people [illegible] gusted with the extra swindle. But n[illegible] question between Mr. Johnson and Con[illegible] settled, the members who vote against the [illegible] peal of the appropriation will not be overlooked.

The Weekly Tribune.

NEW-YORK, WEDNESDAY, DEC[illegible] 26, 1866.

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RENEW YOUR SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The present number of THE WEEKLY TRIBUNE closes the subscription of those of our subscribers whose terms commenced with the first number in January. We shall strive, as in the past, to make THE WEEKLY TRIBUNE the best newspaper in the United States, and will thank our friends in renewing their subscriptions to invite their neighbors to aid them in increasing its circulation.

THE TRIBUNE FOR 1867.

THE TRIBUNE enters upon the year 1867 more prosperous in business than ever before. The expediency of enlarging our pages—thus making THE TRIBUNE the largest and the cheapest newspaper in America—was doubted by many. We have found our account in it. The circulation of THE TRIBUNE is steadily increasing, and our advertising patronage has increased so much that it is more difficult to print our news than when we used a smaller sheet, and this difficulty we can only meet by frequently publishing supplementary pages.

The close of the war has imposed upon THE TRIBUNE the discussion of momentous and peculiar problems. We have met them as best we could, laboring with sincerity for Freedom, Social Progress, Political Equality, Impartial Suffrage—All Rights for All. A Republican President became the enemy of Republicanism, and we have been called upon to denounce and expose the treacheries of a degraded Administration. It was not without pain, certainly not without much thinking, that we made an issue with President Johnson. The people approved our course by returning their radical representatives to power. The elections of 1866—as important to the nation as Lee's surrender—make new duties. Reconstruction is now the duty of the country—political reconstruction—reconstruction in finances and tariffs. We are no longer pressed by war necessities, and we must amend our war experiments. The present condition of the currency is a grievous evil. Trade suffers; our manufacturing interests are in a precarious state. A dollar does not mean a dollar, but its fraction. It may be sixty cents, it may be ten. It is a sentiment, not a fact. When the laborer earns his dollar, he does not know whether he has one loaf of bread or ten. All business is feverish and unsettled. We think this can only be remedied by a wise and intrepid policy at Washington—by reducing the currency to the specie basis. Upon this we shall insist.

The necessity of Protection to Labor again presses upon us. We regret that on this most important measure the Republican party is divided. An honest but mischievous minority in the West, particularly, are endeavoring to create a policy which can only result in the prostration of American Industry—the degradation of Labor and the aggrandizement of English capitalists. During the many years of our work we have struggled against this interest. We believe Protection more necessary now than ever before, and we shall insist upon the broadest and wisest legislation for the Rights of Labor.

In the perplexing question of Reconstruction we see no reason to amend the policy which we have asserted since the close of the war. It then seemed to us that Emancipation of the Black should be followed by Suffrage for the Black. We did not see the wisdom of a policy of promiscuous confiscation and hanging. We had too much blood in war to ask for blood in peace—even to gratify angry vengeance. It seemed important that the South should concede Suffrage, and that the North should concede Amnesty. Some of our friends disapproved of this; but Congress has followed our advice. Amnesty has been approved by Congress—to a greater extent than we claimed in THE TRIBUNE. We have held that the men who starved captives in Rebel dungeons, who murdered surrendered prisoners, who violated the rules of war, and aided the assassination of Mr. Lincoln, should be tried and punished. Congress and the Administration have agreed that no punishment should be inflicted even upon men who are charged with these crimes, and the only measure looking like punishment is the amendment of disfranchisement from holding office, which is merely a sentimental and not a practical penalty. On the other hand, the passage of the Civil Rights Bill, the Freedman's Bureau Bill, and the Bill for Suffrage in the District of Columbia, show that reconstruction will not be consummated without suffrage and protection for the Blacks. The policy of THE TRIBUNE has been practically adopted by those who differed with us during its discussion. We never quarrel with friends who are impatient with us. We do them the justice of believing they go their way to what is right, just as we trust they will do us the justice of believing we go our way to what is right. We work for the same object, but perhaps in different ways. We have no higher aim than to secure peace to this nation, and to all nations—liberty, progress, happiness, virtue, and the universal brotherhood of man. And for this we shall continue to toil in our best way.

We have reorganized and strengthened every department of THE TRIBUNE. We have correspondents in every part of this country and in every country of the world; resident correspondents in every capital and commercial center of Europe and South America; special correspondents who follow important movements in all parts of the earth. This establishment costs a great deal of money, and to organize it we have invested many thousands of dollars. When we state that there are three hundred people directly or indirectly connected with the editorial department of THE TRIBUNE, charged, in a greater or lesser degree, with writing for its columns and giving it news, and that for every item of news we pay money, the vast expense of our publication may be imagined. We intend to enlarge these facilities, and not only to gather news from all parts of the world, but to ask the most [illegible] of other countries to write for our columns. With many of them we have already entered into negotiations which will result in giving to the readers of THE TRI[BUNE] a series of essays that, both for their intrinsic value and the fame of their illustrious authors, will long be memorable in the history of journalism. We postpone for the present a more definite announcement.

Friends of Impartial Justice and Progress! we greet you on the bright prospects before us. Friends of THE TRIBUNE! we appeal to those who believe that an increased circulation of THE TRIBUNE would conduce to the political, intellectual, and moral wellbeing of the Republic, to aid us in effecting such increase.

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CHRISTMAS.

Christmas morning came to us this year with more than usual joy, and the world may feel the happiness of peace reigning over all its kingdoms—peace and goodwill to men. When we last celebrated the feast of the Divine Nativity, clouds of war darkened the earth. Over America they were breaking, over Europe they were gathering, and many homes were saddened by memories of bloody deeds that had been done, or anxious in anticipation of bloody deeds to be done. The guns of war no longer sound in our land, but if we have not had Richmond, Europe has had Sadowa, and many a Christmas dinner on the Rhine will be sad to-day with memories of the blue-eyed, fair-haired brother who lies mangled and unknown in the channeled fields of Bohemia. Even Europe is at peace. Bismarck may hear the Te Deum without concerning himself as to the next bulletin from Saxony. Napoleon may listen to the Gloria in Excelsis in the Cathedral of Our Lady without an emotion, except what may be suggested by Mexico. Even from Mexico he can have little to annoy him, since Mr. Seward has charged himself with protecting the eagles of the Empire. Russia is busy with wedding revels. England, in the throes of Reform, dangles hideous Jamaica before the eyes of John Bright and Ireland, and takes her plum-pudding not without wrath and threatening. The Pope will waft the incense before the altar where Peter is supposed to have knelt, and give the blessing of Peter to thousands of Romans, who most probably are preparing to draw swords upon His Holiness the moment the signal is given at Florence. "Pax Domini sit semper vobiscum!" Amen, your Holiness, and also with the spirit of the good King Victor, whose scepter we hope to kiss on the Quirinal next Christmas morning.

In our land we have peace, if not altogether rest. The war is over, and we may have our Christmas dinners without dreading Chickamauga or Fredericksburg. Upon last Christmas Day we thanked the Lord that the valor of our soldiers had destroyed Rebellion. To-day we thank Him that the virtue of our people has destroyed an Administration which attempted to surrender the results of that valor to the spirit of Slavery. We have escaped from perils as vast as those which overshadowed the nation when Davis ruled in Richmond. Those perils have been averted, and Mr. Johnson is as helpless to-day as James the Second when William rested his sword on the rocks of Torquay. We can think of nothing more comforting for a Christmas morning meditation than this great political triumph, especially as it brings hope to millions to whom hope has been denied for many generations. Let us be resolute to do justice to the race which war has made free, and which only asks opportunity. What is peace to us without good-will to our brothers? and what right have we to come into God's presence and rejoice over his many blessings while millions of others, degraded and oppressed by our crimes, are under a grievous yoke? For while resigning the protection—the barracoon and barn-yard protection of Slavery—which meant at least raiment and shelter and much revelry on Christmas, they are prevented from protecting themselves, from going unrestrained to their destiny. We thanked God that he had given us strength to accomplish Emancipation upon last Christmas Day. Let us so act that we may thank Him upon the next that we have accomplished Justice.

And yet, to come from these concerns to others more personal and domestic, this Christmas Day is one of peace, and we trust that peace will rest upon all. There is nothing more beautiful than the home life that Christmas develops; the out-cropping of all that is good within us—charity and patience. Then it seems truly, as a great thinker expresses it, as if the world were bathed with love as with a fine ether. How absolute manhood becomes; how little remains of Caste and Sham and Prejudice and Poverty! There is as much joy in the hovel as in the palace, as much love over the coarse pudding, not rich in plums, but wealthy with molasses, and the one poor bird whose years might have earned a better fate, as over the daintiest banquet that wealth and taste can provide. On this day Love is one with Humanity. The very sadness that might be ours is forgotten in the universal joy. Men may mourn for the fair brows that may never more be kissed, women may weep for men who sail upon the seas. There may be those whom fate has covered with peculiar sorrow, who wait in patience, and see in the burning coals pictures of a life that is to come; wifeliness, and loving hands, and children rising to call them blessed—the consecration and sacrament of humanity—beyond and above all, as a crown and sweet possession. To these, to every one, this Christmas season comes with rare fullness, and tenderness, and strength.

It is not for us to divine what message this Christmas will bring to every heart. We can send but one. We wish all blessings and peace—a Christmas tree, as rich with treasure as a palace in the Arabian Nights, for every wondering, wide-eyed child—a Christmas tree heavy with opportunities and purposes, and duties well-performed, for every citizen—a Christmas tree of comfort and peace and charity, for every woman in the land. These are possibly vague wishes—mere words of this season of pleasant words—extravagantly expressed. It is difficult to carol when all the world is chiming. What we want to say in our plain homely way is, that we wish good to all—every joy that this too barren world can give—not only on this hallowed and gracious Christmas Day, but on this day coming for many, many years.

The mail from Rio Janeiro brings us a piece of news as significant as it is pleasing. The Emperor of Brazil has just liberated the national slaves, the profits of whose labors belonged to the Crown; and large numbers of the freedmen, we learn, have entered the army, and are being forwarded in detachments to the seat of war. This looks like the first step toward general emancipation in Brazil—at least, it is so regarded by the Abolition party of the Empire. The Emperor of Brazil is known as one of the most enlightened and liberal rulers of the age, and there can be no doubt that he sincerely desires to see the fine country which he governs delivered from the incubus and stigma of Slavery. In liberating the national slaves he has, in effect, entered a quiet but telling protest against the "institution," and the influence of his example can hardly fail to prepare the way for the emancipation of the slaves throughout the Empire. It strikes us that the course pursued by the United States Government in our civil war has had something to do with the Emperor's action in freeing the Crown slaves. At any rate, it is remarkable that, as in our case, Brazil accepts the services of the negro as a soldier, to fight the battles of his country, putting the sword into hands from which the manacles have just fallen.

SLAVERY AUTHORIZED BY THE PRESIDENT.

Another sale of negroes in Maryland, reported in our summary to-day, proves that unless the Civil Rights bill is enforced, emancipation is but a farce. It matters not whether a thousand men are sold, or but two or three; the Constitution is equally denied, and Slavery reëstablished. There are two provisions in the laws of Maryland which impose unjust disabilities upon colored men; the first disqualifies a negro from being a witness in any cause wherein a white man is a party; the second declares that where a negro is convicted of a crime for which a white man would be confined in the penitentiary, he shall be sentenced to be sold, either in or out of the State, for the period for which a white man would be imprisoned. Since Maryland courts declare the Civil Rights bill unconstitutional, there have been several sentences of negroes to Slavery under the latter law, and the case we report to-day shows a concerted resolution to restore Slavery in this modified form. The utter folly of the pretense that the penalty is a punishment of crime is shown by the fact that one of the negroes sentenced to slavery purchased his liberty for $37, thus escaping with a slight fine. This small price was due, however, to the presence of Major Vanderlip of the Freedmen's Bureau, who issued a warrant yesterday for the arrest of Judge Magruder, who ordered the sale, and his trial before a United States Court under the Civil Rights bill. Maryland papers claim that the negroes profit by the law, as the penitentiary is a worse punishment than Slavery; but they are very careful not to suggest that white men should be treated in the same way.

But a graver question than conflict between the State laws of Maryland and the Civil Rights bill presents itself. The President has suspended, by an order dated Dec. 19, paragraphs V. and VI. of General Orders No. 15, issued by Gen. Sickles in the Department of the South. We quote the paragraphs:

"V. Corporal punishment shall not be inflicted "upon any person other than a minor, and then only "by the parent, guardian, teacher, or one to whom "said minor is lawfully bound by indenture of apprenticeship. Nor shall any person be sold to service as a punishment for crime or for other cause, by "any authority whatever.

"VI. the laws of the States, respectively, in this "Department, defining and punishing vagrancy, applicable to white persons, may be enforced against "all persons; nevertheless, no one who shall have "used reasonable diligence to obtain employment, or "who shall be unable to work, by reason of infirmity, "shall be deemed a vagrant."

By this act President Andrew Johnson permits South Carolina to whip her free negroes, and reëstablishes Slavery in all the States of the Department of the South. Without attempting to show any cause, he has authorized in those States the same outrages which in Maryland have aroused the indignation of the people. He has attempted to nullify the Civil Rights bill, defies the clause in the Constitution prohibiting Slavery; and has gone out of [illegible] to seek a new issue with Congress. Of all [illegible], none is worse than this.

TRANSATLANTIC STEAMSHIPS.

Since the war ended there [illegible] only two American passenger steamers plying regularly between New-York and any European [illegible]. These two were the Arago and Fulton, and [illegible] were sold at auction on the [illegible]. As the vessels were put up at auction for the avowed reason that the line did not pay, we presume they are not likely to be again started for Havre. With their sale, the American flag, so far as it covered any passenger traffic between Europe and America, disappears from the ocean. A nation which claims to be almost the first in its mercantile marine seems about to withdraw from all competition for the very large and profitable business which steamers under other flags are doing between the two continents. The Germans, who are not a great maritime people, have two lines, the French one, the British four. America contents herself with a coasting trade in steam, and with sailing vessels on the ocean.

We don't think it necessary to go deep for the causes of this foreign monopoly of American trade. If American commerce generally had not been hunted on every sea by Anglo-Rebel cruisers through four years of recent war, it is needless to say we should to-day have had a much larger tonnage. It is possible we might have reckoned also one American among the transatlantic steamship lines. We will not deny to Great Britain the credit of foresight in her neutral policy. Her shipbuilders and owners who backed up the treacherous diplomacy of Earl Russell with material support to the naval interests of his Confederate clients, well understood the value of the marine monopoly they intended to create. Nor need we recall the disastrous history of the Collins line, although we presume its ill fortune has done much to discourage efforts that otherwise would have been cheerfully made. What we desire to direct attention to is the great opportunity still open to American capital, enterprise, and skill.

Of the seven lines of steamships now running between New-York and various European ports, the Cunard has long had the preference among American passengers. Years ago it attained such a preëminence that it believed itself able to defy competition. The successful establishment of other lines has not destroyed its prestige here any more than in England, where the Cunard fleet divides with the royal navy that reverent admiration which your true John Bull delights to cultivate for British oak and iron. Yet, we think it might be easy to show that the Cunard line, unless thoroughly reformed, would not long remain a formidable rival of a well organized American line. It is not even necessary to take it for granted that Americans would, as a matter of patriotic pride, prefer to sail in an American ship. Other things being equal, they might, but other things being unequal they probably would not. A sea voyage, at the best, is so irksome to most people that they will naturally choose the least uncomfortable ship, and, while they may prefer to see the stars and stripes hoisted at the mizzen when a sail is in sight, they will hardly rate that enjoyment so high as the daily and hourly comfort of a tedious voyage. They will go in a British ship, if the British has a better table, better staterooms, better attendance, better management, and a better reputation for speed and safety than the American. Reverse the conditions, and the public will in the end reverse its judgment. Herein lies the hope of a prosperous future to some American steamship company. The Cunard will be their most powerful rival, and the Cunard ships can easily be surpassed in every particular above mentioned. A line of American ships can be economically and profitably managed, and yet be better built, more conveniently arranged, furnish superior accommodations and a better cuisine than the Cunard, and at least an equal assurance of a safe and quick voyage to Liverpool.

The truth is, the Cunard line is living on its reputation, and whatever it may once have been, is no longer well managed. The public which patronizes it with unparalleled liberality is imposed upon with unblushing effrontery. This company trades upon its reputation for speed, yet it keeps afloat such arks as the Asia, which lately made a fourteen days' passage from Liverpool to Boston. It is believed to be a safe line, and justifies its claim to confidence by putting forward as one of its two fastest vessels a craft that in ordinary Winter weather has to be nursed across the Atlantic by a captain too prudent to carry steam in worn-out boilers, or to strain his weakened ship by more than 13 revolutions of her too powerful engines. This line has for the most part avoided accidents, or has had great success in keeping its mishaps out of the newspapers, but those may judge between skill and luck who remember the Europa collision; who remember how near a certain ship once came to Cape Race; who remember the Arabia pushing her way into a field of ice till it became not quite certain whether she would succeed in backing out of it; who remember the Persia on her first voyage racing against the Pacific and coming into port with her bows stove in by a collision with an iceberg; and who happen to have heard that the Scotia this last Summer narrowly escaped being sunk in the harbor of Queenstown by a collision invited by the obstinacy of Capt. Judkins on a matter of marine etiquette. We have a great respect for marine etiquette, but we doubt whether the 250 passengers on the deck of the Scotia at that moment cared whether the Scotia or the England put its helm a-starboard, when both seemed likely to go to the bottom.

The Cunard ships are built, in respect to passenger accommodation, on one model, and whatever effort may have been made to improve the sea-going qualities of the vessels, the invention of the architects who designed their saloons and staterooms was exhausted with the first effort. The airy and well-lighted rooms on the upper deck, familiar to passengers on other lines, are unknown on the Cunarders. Abundance of clean bed linen and towels is unknown. The table is bad. A good cuisine would be bad if served as a bad one is served on the best of these British steamers. The cooking is that of a third-rate London hotel, and the services of a first-rate French artist would not make bad tea into good, nor chiccory into good coffee, nor cheap vegetables into savory dishes. We have heard that in these matters some of the existing lines are much more liberally and decently ordered; we are quite sure they cannot be much worse. And these details are what make an Atlantic voyage comfortable or ridiculously miserable. Dr. Johnson said a voyage was like a prison, with the additional chance of being drowned. If the Cunard line had been in his time, he might have added, with the certainty of needless annoyance and petty miseries inflicted by a wealthy company upon the passengers who have too long patiently contributed to swell its enormous profits at the cost of the ordinary decencies and enjoyments of hotel life. We are quite sure a good American line would soon find its advantage in improving on the Cunard management.

GEN. SHERIDAN'S EXPLANATION.

Among the Mexican documents transmitted by the President to the House, in answer to their request, is the report of Gen. Sheridan to the War Department, giving his reasons for the arrest of Señor Ortega, who claims to be the Constitutional President of Mexico by virtue of the fundamental law of that country and the free vote of its people. Señor Ortega's protest against the arrest is based, first, upon the wrong violently done to him personally, in disregard of individual guarantees. Secondly—and this is the point that chiefly concerns the American people, upon grounds of international law—he says: "I "protest, in the name of the Mexican Republic, "whose power I exercise as President, against this said "act, because it imports an indirect interference by the "armed forces of the United States in the solution of "local Mexican questions. * * I again protest, as "President of Mexico, against all acts which directly "or indirectly lead by forcible means to impose upon "the Mexican people, in the character of government, "the factions represented by Mr. Benito Juarez, &c., "&c."

Gen. Sheridan's attempted justification of the arrest rests upon these grounds: 1. That the acknowledged head of the Liberal Government during the recent events in Mexico was President Juarez, and that Ortega had fled the country. 2. That Ortega, while in a foreign country, did as much as he could do to counteract them [the events] by the publication of real or pretended rights as constitutional President of Mexico. 3. That this did not satisfy Ortega, but he resolved on an appeal to arms to enforce his claims, and combinations were formed at New-York and Brownsville. 4. That Gen. Ortega was about to cross the line of our frontier, and was arrested on the same principle that the Fenians were arrested in attempting to violate our laws by the invasion of Canada. 5. That the American people have suffered in trade from the disturbed condition of affairs on the Rio Grande, first by Imperialism and then by foreign merchants in Matamoros, who set up such men as Canales and Ortega.

The admissions made by Gen. Sheridan strengthen the protest of Gen. Ortega, and are evidence enough that his arrest was a violation of international neutrality absolutely indefensible. Señor Ortega, elected to a high office by the people of Mexico, claims to have become the President of the Republic, by the express terms of the Constitution, upon the expiration of the term for which Benito Juarez was elected. It is a question not of fact but of construction, one which belongs wholly and exclusively to the Mexican people, who, disturbed by the invasion of the French, have had no time to devote to it, and the authority of Señor Juarez, who, being to a certain extent in possession, has claimed to hold over until a new election, has been more or less acquiesced in. Señor Ortega, although powerless to enforce his claims, has not ceased to maintain them, and Gen. Sheridan makes it a point against him that he has counteracted the efforts of Juarez by the publication of real or pretended rights as constitutional President of Mexico, and has looked forward to the enforcement of his alleged rights by an appeal to arms. It is not alleged that any violation of our neutrality laws had been actually done or attempted by Señor Ortega; but Gen. Sheridan, looking at the contest between the two claimants for the Presidency, prefers Juarez, as being, in his view, the acknowledged head of the Liberal Government, and repudiates Ortega as interfering with Juarez and with the interests of Americans; and so, on the same principle that the Fenians were arrested in attempting to invade Canada, he arrests Ortega as he was quietly entering Mexico with his Presidential suite and retainers.

Gen. Sheridan suggests that this was done "to "counteract these machinations, and to prevent our "neutrality laws from being violated," but no item of proof is given that our neutrality laws were being violated, and the tone and character of Gen. Sheridan's report shows that he expects to justify his action on the other grounds which we have specified. Had Señor Ortega been arrested for the crime of violating, or attempting to violate, our neutrality laws, the General would have advised him of the charges, and the Government would have ordered his trial. Assuming that Gen. Sheridan has no better defense than that he has submitted, he should be advised that *he*, and not Ortega, has violated the laws of international neutrality by intermeddling in the domestic affairs of the people of Mexico. The American Government is presented to the world in the position of violating at the first opportunity the pledges and principles which Mr. Seward, so long as neutrality was of importance to ourselves, unceasingly repeated to the courts of Europe. "Our policy of "non-intervention," he declared, "straight, absolute "and peculiar, has become a traditional one." While the echo of our boastful devotion to this policy yet lingers in the diplomatic atmosphere, we celebrate our restoration to power by an interference with the concerns of our weaker neighbor—an act that is an open violation of international right and international courtesy. Our Government seems emulous of that insolent disregard for all law, except the law of the stronger, which the Great Powers of Europe too often betray in their intercourse with the lesser.

The act which we are compelled thus to denounce is indeed the act of Gen. Sheridan, but the responsibility for it rests not upon him, but upon the authority at Washington from which proceeded his instructions. The country well knows what hand is kept upon the helm of our diplomacy. Gen. Sheridan does not, in any letter which Mr. Seward has permitted to see the light, seek to relieve himself of his personal responsibility for the arrest of Ortega. He is a soldier, and obeys orders. Chivalrous to a fault, he prefers to bear the odium of a policy of which he is probably not the author, but the instrument. He may well think he can afford to trust his own reputation with the American people, who honor and confide in him. But Mr. Seward's popularity will not be much increased by the discovery that he is willing to saddle on Gen. Sheridan so much of his diplomacy as he understands to be a blunder.

2,500 MORE OUT OF EMPLOYMENT.

A letter dated Dec. 7, from the owner of one of the largest woolen mills at Cohoes, in Albany County, has been shown to us, in which the writer says:

"The knitting mills here are all practically stopped; that is, some are entirely stopped, and the others are what we term 'running out.' So, in a week or two at the furthest, from 2,000 to 2,500 hands will be out of employment, and $1,500,000 of capital will be lying idle, and the Government revenue tax from the Cohoes Mills will be cut off, and great suffering and loss will ensue. We *should have instant relief.* As far as the woolen manufacture is concerned, justice to us and duty to the country requires the Senate to pass the tariff voted by the House last Summer. In other localities in this State beside Cohoes the woolen mills are stopping, and the general feeling is that with our present taxes and insufficient tariff, it is useless for us to attempt to compete with foreign manufacturers."

Begging Congress to allow our manufactures to live! Think of it. What an inversion of relations! Congress was created to provide for the general welfare, and yet the representatives of from 2,000 to 2,500 working-people in a single village in New-York fall on their knees to Congress and pray for legislation to enable them to keep at work and to live! There is not a civilized government in Europe in which the interests of Industry are not intelligently cared for and jealously watched. Our Government, peerless in neglect of Labor, sits inactive, with one ear attentive to the sophistries and persuasions of foreign importers, while the other gives dull and reluctant hearing to the cries of workingmen and women that they will soon want bread if the market for their labor is not saved to them—sits inactive, and lets the flood of imported goods silence the looms of our country and drive our carders, spinners and weavers by brigades into idleness and prospective beggary.

The American knit-goods interest has been broken down by the Senate's defeat of the House Tariff bill last July. The worsted-goods interest has been broken down. Woolen mills are failing almost daily all over the country. It is admitted by those connected with the trade that there has not been such a prostration of business since the terrible year 1857. And the reason is manifest, and was made manifest by predictions at Washington last July, over, and over, and over. The importations of wool and woolens for 1866 have amounted to $67,057,957. To furnish a measure for the volume of this foreign flood poured into our markets, we will state that for 20 years preceding the year 1860 the importations of woolens averaged only $19,000,000 a year.

The people in the different States who are threatened with loss of work this Winter, by the closing of the woolen mills, may have a desire to represent their sufferings and their rights to the Senators who defeated the Tariff last July. We append a list of the Yeas and Nays on the vote to postpone the bill:

YEAS—Brown, Mo.; Davis, Ky.; Doolittle, Wis.; Foster, Conn.; Grimes, Iowa; Guthrie, Ky.; Harris, N. Y.; Henderson, Mo.; Hendricks, Ind.; Johnson, Md.; Kirkwood, Iowa; Lane, Ind.; Morgan, N. Y.; Nesmith, Oregon; Norton, Minn.; Pomeroy, Kansas; Riddle, Del.; Saulsbury, Del.; Sumner, Mass.; Trumbull, Ill.; Willey, W. Va.; Williams, Oregon; Wilson, Mass.—23.

NAYS—Anthony, R. I.; Chandler, Mich.; Clark, N. H.; Conness, Cal.; Cowan, Penn.; Cragin, N. H.; Edmunds, Vt.; Fessenden, Me.; Howard, Mich.; Howe, Wis.; Poland, Vt.; Ramsey, Minn.; Sherman, Ohio; Sprague, R. I.; Stewart, Nevada; Van Winkle, W. Va.; Wade, Ohio—17.

THE FREEDMEN'S BUREAU.

Gen. Howard's letter to the President in reply to the charges against the Freedmen's Bureau by Gens. Steedman and Fullerton, is as able and interesting as any document could be which had to be occupied with answers to absurd and trivial accusations.

After Mr. Johnson had quarreled with the country, he thought it necessary to make his quarrel good by demonstrating that the Freedmen's Bureau was superfluous. Messrs. Steedman and Fullerton were sent on a tour through the South, nominally to report on the condition of the Bureau, really to supply facts or statements in support of a conclusion determined upon before the start. These Presidential agents had many qualifications for such a mission, and when they failed, it was not because they found any part of their task so contemptible as to be irksome to them. They not only did, but over did, their task, and when their observation failed they eked out the deficiency with invention. A more one-sided and unjust report was never made than that which they had the sagacity to offer the President, the effrontery to submit to the people. They spent four months in wandering through the South, hunting for abuses which did not exist, and the result of their excursion is a beggarly catalogue of trivial facts, and a monstrous deduction therefrom. The insincerity of their pretended investigation is shown by their neglect to examine the records of the Bureau in Gen. Howard's possession. They asked him no questions, and then complained that they could not find in the Southern States the documents they desired. Gen. Howard says "there is not a Bureau in Washington with a more complete set of reports, books, records, &c., than can be produced at this office for inspection at any time."

Upon this dishonest investigation Messrs. Steedman and Fullerton founded their sweeping charge of "an entire absence of system and uniformity in the constitution of the Bureau;" yet the laws that govern it were the work of Congress, and were approved by the President. We presume, however, that these gentlemen meant to speak of the condition of the Bureau, and not of its constitution. Even in this respect their charges were vague and without grounds, and we almost regret that Gen. Howard's duty compelled him to expose the wretched pretenses by which they attempt to prove that the Bureau exercises judicial powers in one State and declines them in another; that the agents arbitrarily interfere with the matter of wages; that the system of receiving and disbursing money is loose. They should have known, without waiting for Gen. Howard to inform them, that the system of the Quartermaster's Department has been adopted by the Bureau, and that if the pecuniary management of the Bureau is loose, that of the entire Government is out of order. Other specimens of this investigation are the attempts to make the Bureau responsible for matters which existed before its organization, and to cite as present abuses the delinquencies of a few officers who had been suspended or discharged from office. After blundering for four months in this way, it is not surprising the Johnson inspectors should conclude that Messrs. Steedman and Fullerton announced that "the Bureau has been, in the aggregate, productive of more harm than good." Their opinions would have had more weight had it been uttered before the inspection, for their known mission, their conduct of it, and their published reports destroyed what little confidence may have existed previously in their honesty or judgment.

Gen. Howard is perfectly right in suspecting that the object of the inquisition, as understood by these officers, was to bring the Bureau into contempt before the country. They made that plain; so plain, indeed, that the Bureau did not need this defense. Had Messrs. Steedman and Fullerton been wiser, they would have known that the best way to maintain the Bureau was to attack it with malice, and ignorance, and falsehood. Gen. Howard, however, by this thorough exposition of the workings of the Bureau, and demonstration of its necessity, has probably prevented any future attacks of the kind. We wish we could hope that Mr. Johnson will profit by the lesson.

We printed some time ago a letter written by Mr. Greeley at Rochester in response to questions put to him by a Mississippi correspondent. This same letter comes back to us in *The Chicago Republican*, accompanied by the following note:

"*To The Editor of the Chicago Republican:*

"SIR: I will thank you for the insertion in your "columns of the following letter, which I wrote ten "weeks ago in reply to the anxious inquiries of a "Southern ex-Rebel as to what the Republicans proposed to do with the South. If my remembrance is "accurate, he wrote me that the fear of sweeping "confiscation, if not of more sternly revengeful measures, was paralyzing enterprise and industry at the "South, and thus threatening destitution. In reply, "I hastily wrote him what is given below, and, finding that it has been published, I ask its appearance "in your columns as an antidote to the [illegible] "[illegible] *(intentional, I judge), that I have* [illegible] *Rebel States shall be restored to their former rights,* "*including representation in Congress, yet allowed to* "*withhold the right of suffrage from their black citizens.*

"May I add, without offense, that I seek no vindication nor championship? I can wait.

"Yours, HORACE GREELEY.

"Beloit, Wisconsin, Dec. 16, 1866."

THE TAX ON COTTON.

The Chamber of Commerce have had under consideration a memorial to Congress, asking that the tax on cotton should be abolished, on the ground that it is injurious to American interests. The subject was debated on Thursday very fully; we print elsewhere the proceedings. The leading argument against the repeal of the tax was made by Mr. Elliot C. Cowdin, and from the importance of the subject we give his entire address.

Mr. Cowdin, in reply to the claim that the tax is unjust, because no other agricultural product is so burdened, shows that Northern products are chiefly in manufactures, and are more heavily taxed than cotton; the South, on the other hand, is almost exclusively devoted to agriculture, and therefore to remove the tax on cotton would be to compel the North to bear almost the entire weight of taxation. It is not quality, but quantity of production that is considered in the distribution of taxes. Take the cotton tax from the South, and it is not taxed at all. The objection that a tax on cotton discourages production at home and encourages it abroad, is met by Mr. Cowdin with the argument that "the principle contended for would virtually abolish all internal taxation." The decrease in cotton production recently is demonstrated not to be the result of this small tax, but of the war. It is notorious that the planters from [illegible] devoted themselves to raising grain to support the Rebel armies. He exposes the [illegible] of the argument that the tax is unimportant as a means of helping to pay the national debt, by the evident fact that it was not imposed to liquidate that obligation, but to provide revenue for immediate use. Of $490,000,000 raised from customs and internal revenue in the fiscal year ending June 30, but $20,000,000 were supplied by the tax on cotton. Beyond this tax the revenue from the Southern States was insignificant. Mr. Cowdin pertinently asks what the planters have ever done that the North, now bearing an enormous proportion of the burden of taxation, should assume the whole weight? No tax has been imposed as a penalty on the Rebel States, and it is but just that the duty should be fairly distributed. It is true that the constitutionality of the cotton tax has been denied, but, as Mr. Cowdin well suggests, that is not the business of the Chamber of Commerce, but of the Supreme Court. We can hardly afford to exempt the South from all taxation, nor is it to be forgotten that it was by the Rebellion alone that the burden was imposed. No attempt was made to refute these arguments, and the almost unanimous vote by which the subject was indefinitely postponed shows that the merchants of New-York believe with Congress that the tax is at present not only just but expedient.

We have already had something to say of that gentle but expensive amusement of burning freedmen's school-houses, to which lively Confederate spirits in various parts of the land are known to be addicted. This was so gross an injury that it did not need long or repeated discussion; the simple facts themselves were sufficiently eloquent and conclusive. But our readers who think, as we believe most of them do, that every wrong should have a remedy, will be cheered to learn that in Missouri a remedy *prima facie* excellent has been discovered for this epidemic arson, or for like malicious mischief. In Calloway County was a Freedman's School-House, and the edifice, not upon architectural, but moral grounds, was very distasteful to the chivalry of the vicinage. Whereupon they did enter it, destroyed the contents, smashed the desks, and burned the books. It was exquisite recreation while it lasted, but the next morning fearful word was brought that the militia were coming, armed with horrid guns and disagreeable swords, to vindicate the majesty of the law, and to bring the iconoclasts, no longer sportive, to serious account. Without needless delay, a subscription paper was sent round; money enough was raised to replace the damaged furniture, and in this practical way a more disagreeable meeting was averted.

This little event demonstrates the efficacy of penalties not unknown to legislation, which [illegible] communities makes town or county responsible for the mischief of mobs. When the incendiaries [illegible] fire these school-houses fully understand that the building destroyed must be replaced by a new one quite as good, and perhaps better, to be erected at their expense, by specially taxing the whole neighborhood, possibly the active rascals will stay their hands, or the cowardly on-lookers be brave enough to interfere. There is nothing like going directly at a man's breeches-pocket; there is nothing like teaching him, through a diminution of his cash, the exceeding beauty of a good conscience; there is nothing which will so damp his felonious enthusiasm as the certainty that he must pay roundly for its indulgence; there is nothing which will rouse the lethargy of magistrates like the prospect of a swinging assessment; there is nothing which will so fire the valor of the posse comitatus, and bring passion and prejudice to a sense of the excellence of order and decency. When those who aid and abet are forced to foot the bill, we may be sure that the principals will find their way to the calm retreat of the county jail, under the guidance of a vigilant and thoroughly incorruptible constable. Erroneous "public opinion" will get a twist in the right direction when it [illegible] becomes an expensive luxury; and if to the value of the property destroyed be added the cost of maint[illegible] the militia, the arrangement will be found [illegible] admirable.

A LETTER FROM MR. GREELEY.

DAVENPORT, Iowa, Dec. 9, 1866.

GENTLEMEN: A newspaper dispatch from your City, dated the 5th inst., asserts that I have been invited by Louisianians of diverse parties to extend my present journey so that it shall include a visit to your section. Though unable to comply with this invitation, I venture to base on it an entreaty which I am sure you will receive in the spirit which prompts it.

Our country has of late been the arena of a terrible Civil War, whereof the devastations and the passions, though softened by the intervention of time, still remain. Having been plunged into that War by natural antagonisms which seem to me fully to explain, if not to excuse, the collision they occasioned, we are to-day in danger of protracting a struggle which has no longer a rational motive, and for which the only excuse is to be sought in antipathies and prejudices which have no longer even a decent pretext. It has been decided beyond appeal that we are not to be henceforth aliens but countrymen. A handful may migrate to Brazil on the one hand or to Liberia on the other, but at least ninety-nine in every hundred of us will live and die free citizens of the United States. Shall we not, therefore, resolve to live in peace and fraternal concord? What conceivable interest of any of us can be promoted by a perpetuation of the hate and bitterness naturally incident to a state of Civil War?

You Louisianians are preëminently a cosmopolitan people. Native and foreign-born; French, English and Spanish; Caucasian and African; Southron and Yankee; you are perfectly able (as you have proved) to make your State a hell upon earth if you choose. And I greatly fear that there are those among you who *do* choose.

But, on the other hand, I feel entire confidence that you, who have invited me to your State, with very many of your neighbors and fellow-citizens, fully realize that the true interest of all demands peace, order, mutual kindliness, and the most absolute security, the most hearty accord, to every human being now living in or who may hereafter come to your State, of every right of person or property which is enjoyed by the most favored among you. I feel confident that you comprehend that the immense undeveloped resources of your most fertile soil, of your genial clime, and of your City's unequaled position, cannot be even partially utilized until a substantial concord shall have been effected among your own people, binding your diverse races in the silken bonds of a common sympathy, based on a feeling of general security and contentment.

Some of you are doubtless "State Rights men" in a sense that I am not; and I think even these must see that no State can ever be truly strong while its people are arrayed against each other in hostile factions, each intensely jealous of some other. The tendency to "fly from petty tyrants to the throne," is, under such circumstances, irresistible.

And, on the other hand, the people of a State, thoroughly at peace and in fraternal relations with each other, may regard the doings of the Federal Government with interest, certainly, but without anxiety or apprehension.

I venture to entreat you, who have seen fit to invite me to your State, to resolve yourselves into a provisional committee intent on the establishment forthwith of mutual confidence and good will among all the diverse races, nationalities, and clans inhabiting your State, and that you invite every segment and class of your people to select its ablest and best men to coöperate with you in this benign enterprise. If you do but resolve in faith that the blessed Christmas season now at hand shall not pass without witnessing the establishment of a perfect and cordial good understanding between all classes of your people, I cannot doubt your success; and I shall hope that your example will be generally imitated, so that the year 1867 will long be remembered as the dawn of a new era of peace, prosperity, and happiness, for our too long distracted and desolated country.

With grateful regard, I remain yours,

HORACE GREELEY.

To Messrs. Gov. Wells, J. H. McKee, R. W. Taliaferro, Judges Durell, Hyman, Howell and Taliaferro, J. P. Sullivan, E. C. Billings, C. A. Weed & Co., Villinghain and Dubiois, Fullan Neville & Co., and E. Heath & Co., Col. Corcoran and others.

LETTER FROM COUNT DE GASPARIN ON UNIVERSAL AMNESTY AND IMPARTIAL SUFFRAGE.

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune.

SIR: Permit me to talk a little with you.

You know that I have never been a warm partisan of the Constitutional Amendment, which was drawn up in the last session of Congress. It has always appeared to me that, for the first time to sanction by an article of the Constitution a distinction founded on color, is to give a strange conclusion to the victory of the North. I doubt, moreover, whether the South, supposing that it should adopt the Amendment, would be tempted to intrust the negro with the right of suffrage by the increased representation which it would thus gain in Congress. Having, whatever might happen, two Senators for each State, and knowing, on the other hand, that the negro vote would be cast for the Lincolnian candidates, it would have no motive to triumph over, what is most of all difficult for it to overcome, the prejudices of race and the traditions of Slavery. The net result of the Amendment would be, therefore, to proclaim conditionally a new right, by virtue of which a race could be excluded from political life and a class of incomplete citizens created.

It is true that, thanks to the Democratic party and to Mr. Johnson, you run no risk of seeing the Constitutional Amendment adopted by the South. As a compromise is in question, the North will take care not to insist on this amendment. Consequently, Congress is about to resume its full liberty of action, and I hope that it will have the wisdom to make a good use of it. The point now in question (and it is time), is to have a National party, with a plain and simple platform, which will become popular, and which will serve as the symbol of its whole policy. *Universal Suffrage—Universal Amnesty*—such must evidently soon be your watchword.

Universal Suffrage, that is to say, the suppression of all distinctions based on color, the completion of the great work of emancipation, and the inscription of eternal justice in the body of your Constitution. If the States should see fit—and I can understand that this may be the case—to subject the exercise of the right of suffrage to certain conditions, these conditions should be imposed at once on the blacks and the whites.

Universal Amnesty, that is to say, the immediate admission to Congress of the States which shall have adopted the new amendment, and of all the States when this amendment, having become part of the Constitution, shall have established universal suffrage everywhere; the pardon of all the Rebels, great and small; the renunciation of all plans of conquering the South, of reducing the Southern States to the position of territories; of confiscation, and of punishment.

I dislike, I confess, everything that tends to perpetuate the consequences and remembrances of the civil war. It is important that peace should be peace, and that pardon should be pardon. If you only establish the equality of races, you need have no fear of the former Rebels. To exclude them from public life would be to exclude the whole South. Instead of the policy of exclusion, adopt boldly the policy of admission. It is better to admit the blacks who love you, than to exclude the whites who hate you. Have faith in your Constitution, have faith in liberty, and, above all, have faith in that God who has never ceased to bless you when you have walked in the path of justice.

How glorious will be that moment when you will no longer have either slaves, or helots, or semi-citizens, or proscripts, or persons excluded from any privileges whatever—that moment when your noble Constitution will have resumed its sway from one end of your country to the other, when the most gigantic rebellion of modern times having been conquered by force, will be conquered by kindness, equity, and generosity!

It is important that you should hasten to arrive at this conclusion. Exceptional systems have their dangers, and you will not have ended your task until there is neither an excluded State nor an excluded race within your borders.

Thus everything brings us back to our motto: Equality of citizens, equality of States; or, as I said a moment since, *Universal Suffrage, Universal Amnesty.*

Nothing is more natural than that you should complete this new Constitutional Amendment by incorporating therein the repudiation of the Southern debt, and the solemn guarantee of the Union debt; but, in my opinion, as to the essential points, everything is summed up in the four words which I have just written.

Distrust middle measures and compromises. I know of but one means to put an end to a question, namely, to settle it once and forever. I know of but one means to insure peace, namely, utterly to eradicate the cause of war. Universal Suffrage will settle the negro question; Universal Amnesty will put an end to the white question.

This done you will have accomplished the most astonishing political work ever undertaken by a people. Through a civil war combined with a social revolution, you will have maintain intact the treasure of your liberties. You will neither have dictatorship, nor centralization, nor great standing armies. You will doubtless need some troops, and, for a lapse of time which I hope may be very brief, but the necessity of which no one can question, you will be called upon to protect the action of your freedmen's bureaus, and to settle the inevitable difficulties proceeding from a transitional epoch. This, however, will be merely a transitional epoch; and, through the very effect of general liberty, the precautions now necessary will speedily become useless.

You may raise the objection that I have not taken Mr. Johnson into account. I do not conceal from myself the fact that if the President continues to play the part of the partisan of the South in opposition to the North, he can raise up great obstacles in your way.

He can, in the first place, encourage the isolation of the South. The equality of races, that indispensable complement of emancipation, would have been accepted with little difficulty by the rebellious States on the morrow of their defeat, under Mr. Lincoln; real emancipation, with real reconciliation as its corollary, would have been speedily realized; the National party and its venerated chief would have proceeded hand in hand toward the same goal, and would have attained it. Since the South has felt that it had an ally in the White House, it has been less inclined to adopt your Constitutional amendments. Nevertheless the result of the late elections, and the certainty of being unable to defeat the Union party and to reinsure Democratic majorities will not be long, I trust, in overcoming this resistance. To be excluded indefinitely from Congress, or to be re-admitted therein as soon as the negroes shall be put in full possession of the rights of citizens. In the presence of such an alternative, the wise men of the South, and there are such, will know which side to choose.

The second peril to which Mr. Johnson may subject you, and it is one against which it is impossible to be sufficiently on your guard, is the return of the old war policy of the Democratic party. To enter into a dispute with France or England, to support the Fenians, perhaps, or to embark the country in some quarrel that will distract the public attention and make it forget reconstruction for ambition; such is the course of conduct which naturally offers itself. In all times and in all countries war is the great destroyer of liberty. Give the South a great war, and you will restore to it, if not all its chances, at least all its hopes of success. Who knows whether, at a given moment, it would not find an ally to aid it in recommencing civil war, withdrawing from the negroes a partial and still ill-defined liberty, and again bringing in question the existence of the United States.

You are the party of liberty; you should be the party of peace. With peace, you will finish the work of emancipation; you will reëstablish constitutional order; you will prevent dictatorships; you will disband armies; you will pay the national debt, and you will pave the way, by the liberal reconstruction of the Union, for the accomplishment of its glorious destinies.

AGENOR DE GASPARIN.

Valleyres, Nov. 21, 1866.

A SUCCESSFUL ENTERPRISE.

The Great American Tea Company commenced business in 1860, in this city. They now occupy six large stores and employ about 250 persons, their sales of Tea and Coffee amounting to $90,000 per week. Their success shows what ability and enterprise, coupled with judicious advertising, will accomplish. It is simple enough. Their liberal advertising brings them large numbers of customers, and their sales being large they are of course, in a position to sell their goods for a smaller profit on each pound. In their advertisements in THE TRIBUNE, from time to time, they fully explain their system of doing business, and from the many letters received from all parts of the country we judge that their customers are well satisfied.

[Announcements.]

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.
THE STANDARD PORTRAIT—NOW READY.
PAINTED FROM LIFE, AT THE WHITE HOUSE, IN 1864.
BY F. B. CARPENTER.
And magnificently reproduced on Steel, in Line and Stipple,
BY F. HALPIN.

For six months Mr. Carpenter was an inmate of the White House, studying the countenance and character of President Lincoln. His great painting,
"THE FIRST READING OF THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION,"
engraved upon Steel by A. H. Ritchie, of which Engraving thousands have been sold, with an increased demand, since the reduction in price by the undersigned; and his book,
"SIX MONTHS AT THE WHITE HOUSE,"
attest the closeness of his intercourse with Mr. Lincoln and the fidelity of his study. Carpenter's "Lincoln" must soon become a household word. It is the
FAVORITE PORTRAIT OF THE LINCOLN FAMILY.
The following distinguished persons were painted from life by Mr. Carpenter: Millard Fillmore, Franklin Pierce, John Tyler, Wm. L. Marcy, Wm. H. Seward, Lewis Cass, Salmon P. Chase, Sam. Houston, Edwin M. Stanton, Gideon Welles, Schuyler Colfax, Edward Bates, Caleb Cushing, Montgomery Blair, John C. Fremont, Horace Greeley, Gov. Myron H. Clark, Judge Stephen J. Field, Dr. Lyman Beecher, Henry Ward Beecher, the Rev. Drs. Cox, Field, Storrs, Bacon, Bushnell, John Pierpont, and many others.

From the Publisher of The New-York Tribune:
I well remember the occasion of Mr. Lincoln's sitting to you, at which I was present. * * * Mr. Lincoln then made this remark: "I feel that there is more of me in this portrait than in any representation which has ever been made." I think these were his very words. Truly yours, SAMUEL SINCLAIR.

From Mrs. Lincoln:
* * * I have seen various portraits of my deeply lamented husband, but not one that approached the truthfulness and perfection of likeness of yours. * * * More we could not ask or expect. * * With sincere esteem, MARY LINCOLN.

From Mr. Robert T. Lincoln:
* * * Both my mother and myself have always considered your portrait of my father the best and most natural that has ever been made; and its value to us would be inestimable. * * Truly your friend, ROBERT T. LINCOLN.

From the Hon. William H. Herndon, for twenty years Mr. Lincoln's law partner:
SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Dec. 10, 1866.
Mr. F. B. CARPENTER—*My Dear Sir:* * * * I received per express yesterday morning your admirable and exquisite engraving by Halpin. When I opened the box and unrolled the portrait, Mr. Lincoln flashed on me as never from picture. As a portrait, a likeness, it is Lincoln. His head rests naturally, easily, symmetrically on his shoulders; his hair is divided upon the proper side, the side he chose to part it on. * * * It looks to me and is a better portrait and likeness than Marshall's. It seems to me to be a superior work of art. If art is perfection of likeness and exquisite culture of execution, then I give your picture the decided preference. * * * Now let me give you a thousand thanks.
Your friend, W. H. HERNDON.

PRICES—Artist's Proofs, $15; India Proofs, $7 50; Prints, $4 75.
Agents wanted to sell the above. Sold by subscription only. Address for the East,
A. J. JOHNSON, Publisher, No. 113 Fulton-st., New-York.
For Ohio and Michigan, F. G. & A. C. ROWE, Cleveland, Ohio.
For territory farther West, Dr. C. ALLEN, Chicago, Ill.

The GORHAM MANUFACTURING COMPANY SILVERSMITHS of Providence, R. I., inform the trade that they are producing fine ELECTRO-PLATED GOODS, comprising full DINNER and TEA SERVICES and TABLE WARE of every description of a very superior quality, and of new and elegant designs. The base is Nickel Silver, upon which is a deposit of Pure Silver of such thickness that they possess all the advantages of solid silver in utility, and from beauty of design and superior finish are undistinguishable from it.
The Gorham Manufacturing Company refer with confidence to the high reputation they have established in the production of SOLID SILVER WARE, in which they have been for many years engaged, and they now assure the public that they will fully sustain that reputation by the production of ELECTRO-PLATED WARES of such quality and extreme durability as will insure entire satisfaction to the purchaser. All articles made by them are stamped thus:

And all such are fully guaranteed. They feel it necessary particularly to call the attention of purchasers to the above trade mark, as their designs have been already extensively imitated. These goods can only be procured from responsible dealers throughout the country.

Recommendatory notices might be much extended, but it is needless, because really but one theme is the burden of them all, and their general spirit is combined in above. (See circular accompanying each bottle. For sale by all Druggists.
JOSEPH BURNETT & Co., Boston, Sole Proprietors.

SWEET ALIGAM.
Is a pretty little garden flower, but if you want a whiff of sweet Elysium you will find the nearest approach to it in the heavenly odor of PHALON'S NIGHT BLOOMING CEREUS.

FLORENCE
LOCK-STITCH REVERSIBLE FEED
SEWING-MACHINE.
BEST FAMILY MACHINE IN THE WORLD.
HIGHEST PREMIUM GOLD MEDAL
Last Fair of the
AMERICAN INSTITUTE
at
NEW-YORK.
FLORENCE SEWING-MACHINE COMPANY.
No. 505 Broadway, N. Y.

THE BEST FAMILY SEWING-MACHINE.—The Committee on Sewing-Machines at the late Maryland Institute Fair report as follows:
"We find the Elliptic Lock Stitch Sewing-Machine to excel all others."
"It is the most simple in construction, having fewer parts, rendering it easier of management, and requiring less power to work it than any other machine."
"The Elliptic Hook is an improvement of great value, insuring the greatest certainty of execution, and preventing the liability of missing stitches, so common in other machines."
"It is the only machine we have seen that will gather without changing the tension."
A MARVEL OF SIMPLICITY AND PERFECTION.
Five years without breaking a needle.
Mrs. H. R. Decker of Jersey City writes: "I have used one of your Elliptic Sewing-Machines constantly over five years, on every kind of work, without even breaking a needle or paying a dollar for repairs, and I consider it a marvel of simplicity and perfection."

ITCH. ITCH. STOP SCRATCHING. "SWAYNE'S OINTMENT."
"Itch." Cures Itch in from 12 to 48 hours. "Tetter."
"Itch." NEVER FAILS TO CURE "Tetter."
"Itch." Salt-rheum, Scald-head, all Skin diseases. "Tetter."
Price 50 cents. By sending 60 cents to Dr. SWAYNE & SON, North Sixth-st., Philadelphia, a box will be sent by mail, postage paid, to any address. Sold by all leading Druggists.

The most appropriate Christmas and New-Year's present you can make your wife, is a Life Insurance Policy in the American Popular Life Insurance Company.
The best present for your daughter is an Endowment Policy in the American Popular Life Insurance Company. Costs but little; insures much, and the money is paid just when wanted. No other Company issues this kind of Policy. Call or write, Office, Nos. 419 and 421 Broadway.

ITCH, SALT RHEUM.—WHEATON'S OINTMENT will cure the Itch in 48 hours—also cures Salt Rheum, Ulcers, Chilblains, and all Eruptions of the Skin. Price 50 cents. By sending 60 cents to WEEKS & POTTER, Boston, Mass., will be forwarded free by mail. For sale by all druggists.

THE HOWE MACHINE CO.'S Lock-Stitch SEWING-MACHINES. ELIAS HOWE, Jr. (original Inventor of the Sewing-Machine), President, No. 699 Broadway, N. Y.

WILLCOX & GIBBS'S SEWING-MACHINE.—"Its seam is less liable to rip than the lock-stitch."—["Judges' Decision" at the Grand Trial."] Send for samples of both stitches. No. 508 Broadway.

A FINKLE & LYON SEWING-MACHINE GRATIS TO CLERGYMEN.—Also to ANY ONE sending us orders for two Machines. Send for Circular. No. 587 Broadway, New-York. AGENTS WANTED.

LADIES DISCARD INJURIOUS PADDINGS.—MADAME JUMEL'S Mammarial Balm and Patent Breast Elevator, develops the form physiologically. Depot No. 363 Canal-st., New-York City. Send for Circulars. Sold by Druggists.

If you are troubled with Rats and Mice, buy Dr. BENNETT'S Sure Death. Price 35c. per box, by mail 50c. For sale by all Druggists.

WHEELER & WILSON'S LOCK-STITCH SEWING-MACHINE [illegible]

GROVER & BAKER'S First Premium Elastic Stitch and Lock Stitch Sewing Machines. No. 495 Broadway, N. Y.

COMMERCIAL MATTERS.

[illegible]

GRAIN, PROVISION, AND OTHER MARKETS.

[illegible]

THE DRY GOODS TRADE.

[illegible]

NEW YORK CATTLE MARKET.

[illegible]

BROKERS' SALES OF BULLOCKS.

[illegible]

THE SHEEP MARKET.

[illegible]

THE SWINE MARKET.

[illegible]

...ND SUPERSTITIONS, ...IER FRONTIER.

...ROBINSON.

...ld in the wilderness can have but a ...romantic incidents met with by the ...of a race that is "passing away."

CHAPTER IV.

[illegible]

red brethren that live at the foot of the first hill, where the 'big river' is like this little brook. If you would eat buffalo meat, you must go where the white warriors have not yet cursed the earth. It is away beyond the 'Father of Rivers.' The Snow Spirit is a great hunter; he will kill a thousand buffalo in one night to teach his children that he is angry. While the young men waste their strength around the roasted carcass the white wolves are on their track. They will soon be here planting corn where you are dancing the buffalo feast. The Great Spirit is angry with his red children."

Me-won-i-too was silent. He looked around with the feeling of an orator who is conscious that he has made an impression upon his audience. Every one was as silent as himself. An hour before and all were as noisy as a flock of blackbirds, and almost as full of life and motion. But his words had filled them with awe at the dreadful calamity which he predicted—few dared to doubt—none to dispute.

Me-won-i-too turned his eyes first upon one and then the other, as much as to say, "what have you to offer in this emergency." At last, his look settled upon Meltonewah, an old gray-haired chief, whose words were wisdom, and to whose counsel the tribe were wont to look for direction in peace or war. Every eye followed that of Me-won-i-too, and rested upon the old man who had taken a seat in the council. To him they now mutely appealed to calm the excitement that had prevailed since the magical disappearance occurred. He felt that he was expected to speak, and arose and looked up to the hazy clouds and muttered, "not yet." Then he stretched his neck as though he would look over a scope of twenty miles of prairie that lay before him. Then he waved his hand all around, and counted his fingers over and over, but he could not number the imaginary herd of buffalo on the great pasture stretching away in every direction, and so he referred to his hair to show that they could not be counted.

"Will they all leave their bones in the great snow on the fire land?"

The term always applied to the prairie by the Indians, is "fire land," indicating their opinion that it is the annual burning which prevents the growth of timber.

Me-won-i-too answered as though the voice had come from the air; he did not seem to address the speaker.

"I have said—the buffalo are going toward the place where the sun sleeps. The hunters will soon follow. A few of the old, the cripple and the worthless of both will remain for the wolves. The bones of man and beast will all be treated with like contempt. They will be kicked by those with whom neither the Indian nor buffalo can live where either can smell the breath of the other. The red man drinks the fire-water of his white brother and dies. The Great Spirit is angry and would have a sacrifice."

"The Great White medicine is one of us. He says the Great Spirit is angry. What shall his red children do to appease his anger. What sacrifice shall we offer. Shall the old man cast his body into the fire?"

He stepped forward as though he would offer himself upon the burning coals in the pit, but Me-won-i-too arrested him with an impatient gesture. "Do you think the Manitou will be satisfied with one whose head is already under the snow. It must be a soft-haired young maiden."

"Is it one of these," said the old man as he glanced around to see which of his favorite children he must give up. Some of those who had treated Me-won-i-too with disrespect for his assumption of supernatural power, trembled now with fear that he would point them out as victims. But he answered emphatically: "No."

"Who shall it be? Will my brother speak. Shall I send my young men away to the west and bring a young Menominie maiden; as cunning as the beaver; as smooth as a young otter; as lively as a squirrel; as docile as a young fawn; as bright as the eagle's eye; as sweet as the fragrance of the lily; as swift as the wing of the swallow; and shall we offer her upon the blazing fire? If we roast her alive as we have the flesh of yonder carcass, will the Manitou be appeased."

"Is the skin of a Menominie girl white? Can a red man offer one of his own color to the White Spirit that sends the snow?"

What mysterious fate impelled this strange man onward, to seek the life of one of his own kindred? The old man replied:

"The mist is going away from my old eyes. The Great Medicine says the maiden must come from the pale faces. Will my young men go?"

A dozen athletic fellows, headed by young Meltonewah, sprung to their feet and began the war dance around the old man and Me-won-i-too. He said:

"You see, they are ready. With the light of the next sun, let them start toward where he comes from. When they come to the country of the pale faces, let them take the first woman, old or young, fair or ugly. If it happen that the Great Spirit guides them to a young virgin, pure and white as the swan, and like the young Menominie you would have sent for, let her be brought here as carefully as the white mother carries her papoose, and she shall be the sacrifice, and the Snow Spirit shall be appeased. But if she chance not to be such a one, or if she die on the journey, or if in any way she shall be rescued from the fire before her spirit has gone up in flame, then will the Great Spirit still be angry—the snow will come like falling clouds, and the last of the buffalo will go to his great sleep, and woe to this village. The pale faces will [illegible] plow up the bones [illegible] shall eat carrion [illegible] chiefs and warriors. Let my words be marked. If you find the maiden more lovely than the brightest of the spirit land, let the young men beware. If the hot blood of one of them is warmed into life by her look or touch, it will be to him a terrible death. Are you all as brave as the wild cat, fighting for her young—as fleet as young deer—as cunning as the 'possum, when he feigns death—and can you hide your tracks like birds—are your hearts all ice, where love or pity could not live—can you crawl like snakes, swim like fish, run like the dog that outleaps the frightened doe—will you burn your eyes with red-hot coals, sooner than shed a tear for the soft-skinned pale face, when you see her perish in the flames."

They gave a yell that might have been mistaken for one from Dante's Inferno, as their assent to all these propositions.

"Then go—my blessing if you succeed—my curse if you fail. Let me not hear that one of you carried a white heart. By light to-morrow you will be on your way. Go toward the sun. It is a long journey."

They listened to the talk, as it were a mandate from a sovereign, and at once made instant preparation to obey. All of the most athletic young men of the village were equipped before morning for their long journey, of the end of which they had no conception. They were to travel due east and take the first pale-face woman that should fall in their way. If fair, then the Good Spirit had guided them; if otherwise, their fate would be sealed by the "Bad Manitou."

What anxious, though rude savage prayers, were offered for the success of this band, and to propitiate the good Manitou, as they set forth, and during all the time they were absent.

What could have been Me-won-i-too's object? It is impossible to say. Perhaps the love of power over our fellow-creatures, that seems to be implanted in all animal natures.

Perhaps he felt his authority waning among the people for whom he had cast off his own race, and had devised a devilish plan to regain his influence, and at the same time gratify his vengeful spirit upon the whites. By pretending that he must have a white maiden for the sacrifice instead of an Indian one, perhaps he wished not only to impress upon the minds of the superstitious people that it would be more acceptable to the Snow Spirit, but prove that he had lost all love for his kindred, or at any rate, so far as to be willing to sacrifice one of his own race rather than theirs.

Perhaps it was a morbid misanthropic hatred of all women. Perhaps it was nature's prompting, that made him desire once more to look upon just such a lovely being as his own child would be if now alive, and then doom her to death, thereby inflicting upon her parents misery equal to his own.

We can guess—none can know—the secret of the moving cause. We see the result—the impulse is hidden forever.

What would we give to read his thoughts during all the long days and weeks that rolled down the eternal steep of time, while the expedition was gone.

How the wives, or loved ones of the absent braves, counted the hours of their absence, and lived first upon the excitement and certainty of success; then upon Hope, then Fear, and then when they came not, Despair said, "they are lost."

In the meantime, the sweet sunshine of autumn—such a glorious day as that upon which I first camped on the very spot where all these hopes and fears and excitements had been felt, had passed away, and the Snow Spirit was already fulfilling the prophesy of Me-won-i-too.

Snow after snow had accumulated, and the surface so crusted over that it was almost sufficient to bear a man upon its surface, but not quite. This rendered traveling almost impracticable, so that if the party had been within a day's march of the village, it would have been difficult to reach it, particularly if encumbered with a female prisoner; as Me-won-i-too constantly assured every one was the case, and that all were safe and well, but their steps had been too slow, and hence the anger of the Spirit of the white robes and snowy feathers. Still, it was feared that the anger was already so great that the absent ones might perish almost within sight of home. Already the words of which the Great Medicine were being fulfilled, for the buffalo could now wallow through the deep-crusted snow, and fell an easy prey to the wolves who came down from the n[illegible]th in packs which fairly blackened the surface.

Finally, after many days of cold and storm, the clouds cleared away and the rays of a warm sun came down with effulgence, melting the surface of the snow into a semi-liquid, which froze into solid ice, by one of those wonderful changes so common to that region, when the thermometer varies ten degrees in as many minutes. It was so sudden and severe a change, that animals were fastened where they lay, and the snow, in places ten feet deep could be traveled over by men as easily and safely as a frozen lake.

Now Hope, long absent from many hearts, came, and whispered, "look away where the sun is rising; look again when he is overhead, and turn your eyes that way when your shadow stretches far away to the east; perhaps you may see the braves returning."

The first day after the "great ice" every one was busy securing a supply of meat. They had only to watch the course of a pack of wolves, and follow them to where a buffalo was imprisoned in his frozen bed, and fight away the ravenous dogs, and cut up and carry home on hand sleds their booty.

On the second morning a small party, without declaring their intentions, started early and took a bee line toward the rising sun.

They could not be going after meat, for they carried a large package ready dressed, with several extra blankets on a sled, and part of them did not take their guns. They were not after meat, but they were going "on a hunt." It was to hunt their long absent companions. A single Indian who had been the day before some thirty miles away to the east, reported that just as he was starting back, he saw a smoke rising in the woods, which he fancied must be made by their long absent friends. He would have gone near enough to satisfy himself, but between him and the smoke ran one of those deep, almost bottomless mud-bed streams which never freeze. To head this would have been a job that would have carried him far into the night, and perhaps left him a prey for a hungry horde of wolves, which for a change, might prefer to make their supper of Indian instead of buffalo meat. So he came home and reported to three or four others, and they were the party now starting out on this early hunt.

In the afternoon of the second day, the hunters returned. They had been successful. The smoke seen by the hunter, was that of the long gone expedition. The maiden had been captured. The reader must be content to wait a little while before he learns how the capture was effected, and what befel the captive. Perhaps he may learn that she did not perish in the fiery ordeal of human sacrifice. Let us not anticipate.

[To be continued.]

SCIENCE.

GLYCERINE.—E. Sichel has formed a new glycerole by mixing four parts of yolk of eggs and five parts of pure glycerine in a mortar. The mass has the consistency of honey, and is unctuous like fat bodies. It was unaltered by an exposure to the air for three years. Applied to the skin it forms a varnish impervious to the air.

AUSTRALIAN BARKS.—The barks of many varieties of trees are remarkable for their astringent qualities and contain a large per centage of tannin. Those used in the manufacture of leather are from various Wattle trees belonging to the Acacia family. They impart to the leather a reddish-brown color, darker than American oak-tanned and more nearly resembling that produced by the American hemlock.

CREOSOTE.—Dr. A. E. Hoffman, after experimenting with a compound which he purchased under the name of beechwood tar, decided that Creosote was impure Carbolic (phenic) acid. Von Gorup-Besanez disputes this and says that beechwood tar Creosote has long since disappeared from German commerce. It is well known that phenic acid is sometimes sold for creosote. Both have antiseptic properties.

HYDRATED PEROXIDE OF COPPER.—C. Weltzein in a note to the French Academy, says when peroxide of hydrogen is added to a solution of ammonia—sulphate of copper, there is a lively disengagement of oxygen and an olive-green precipitate is produced, which is doubtless identical with the peroxide of copper obtained by Thenard and Boettger. The author describes several of its reactions.

ON BLUE SLAGS.—C. Méne, in a paper read before the French Academy, stated that the presence of titanic acid is not always the cause of the blue color in slags, as is generally supposed. From 19 analyses he concluded this acid was the coloring matter in vitreous but not in compact slag. M. Chevreul remarked, after the reading of this paper, that the blue coloration might sometimes be due to the presence of a particular oxyd of iron.

WHITE LEAD AND SALTPETER.—Clarence Delafield of Staten Island has patented a process for manufacturing carbonate of lead. He claims his product is whiter and purer than can be produced by the old Dutch process. It consists in mixing a hot solution of nitrate of lead with a hot solution of carbonate of potash and passing into the mixture superheated steam, which, it is claimed, prevents the formation of hydrated oxyd of lead, and by his peculiar manipulation the whole is changed to carbonate of lead. After the salts of lead have been precipitated, the remaining solution of nitrate of potash is drawn off and evaporated, thus leaving very pure crystals of saltpeter.

TREES OF AUSTRALIA.—There are about 120 known species of forest trees in Australia. In addition to one species of Acacia, commonly known as the Blackwood, the Eucalyptus embrace the most important of the native woods that are used for economical purposes [illegible] the blue gum, the red gum, the white gum, the iron bark, the box and stringy bark. [illegible] are among the largest forest trees of South-Eastern Australia, and in favorable situations, many of them attain [illegible] feet and girth. The blue gum [illegible] to 120 feet without a lateral branch. The blue gum [illegible] nia is extensively used [illegible] for engineering purposes [illegible] the construction of piers [illegible] with which they succumb to the attacks of marine animals, the Teredo and the Chelura. [illegible] Swan River Mahogany, a species of Eucalyptus, is the only wood yet used there which entirely resists these agencies. There are no pines in Australia. [illegible] for inside work of houses is mostly imported from America.

COLOSSAL LABORATORIES.—The Prussian Government fully aware of the great national importance of Chemistry [illegible] Chemical Laboratories [illegible] and the other at Bonn, under the [illegible] Hoffmann the distinguished chemist [illegible] lately resided and lectured in [illegible] at Bonn occupies about 44,000 [illegible] Botanical Garden and is near the [illegible] contains besides store rooms, the [illegible] other operations requiring large [illegible] medico-legal and chemico-physiological [illegible] space, intended for educational [illegible] laboratories, with their adjoining [illegible] and side-rooms, balance-rooms, combustion rooms, lecture theatre [illegible] study and private laboratory of [illegible] of assistants are, one and all, on [illegible].

SORGHUM.—Henry Erni, Chemist in the Department of Agriculture, has analyzed two new varieties of Chinese sugar-cane. One hundred parts of No. 3 contained 4.38 parts of uncrystallizable sugar and 7.66 parts of cane-sugar—the specific gravity being 12.94; specific gravity of the juice. [illegible] parts of No. 4 yielded 3.60 [illegible] and 5.94 parts of cane-sugar—[illegible] specific gravity of the juice, 1.075. [illegible] the former, under the existing [illegible] sale of sorghum molasses to the [illegible] barrel of thick molasses, diluted [illegible] water indicates 10 per cent. will [illegible] sugary liquid, which, after complete [illegible] yeast (75 to 90 deg. Fahr.), may [illegible] vinegar generators, and will [illegible] little less than 7 per cent. by [illegible] fully strong enough for household [illegible].

AUSTRALIAN ESSENTIAL OILS.—J. W. Osborne, [illegible] states that leaves from which essential [illegible] constitute the great bulk of the forest vegetation [illegible] belong (Eucalyptus Amygdalina) [illegible] lbs. of freshly gathered leaves, [illegible] which they are attached, give up [illegible] exists ready formed in the leaf, [illegible] be seen in great numbers, on [illegible] light. The oil is a thin, transparent [illegible], having a pungent odor resembling [illegible] but coarser and stronger; its taste [illegible] producing an after sensation in [illegible] or, with something of its bitterness [illegible] F is 0.881. The boiling point is [illegible] than turpentine. Like other [illegible] on paper, and in shallow vessels [illegible] to a residual resinous matter. [illegible] Iodine no explosion ensues, even [illegible] but a dark colored solution is [illegible] emits a peculiarly variegated vapor, red, violet, green and blue are [illegible] in sunlight. [illegible] proportions in turpentine, both fat [illegible] ether, chloroform and absolute [illegible] resinous substances may be [illegible] one pint of the oil, are soluble, [illegible] 20.3 ounces of Resin, or 17.5 of [illegible] or 1.04 of copal, or 1.16 of [illegible] gutta percha digested in it [illegible] affected. This oil may be conveniently [illegible] from Australian leaves which [illegible] in the Arts.

NEW FORMULA FOR SILVERING PAPER.—At the November meeting of the American Photographical Society, the following composition of the silver bath, by Henry J. N[illegible], was presented: water, 1 ounce; nitrate of [illegible], nitrate of magnesium, 25 grains; [illegible] acetate of lead, 5 grains. Let [illegible] hours in the sun; filter, then float [illegible] and tone as usual. The formula [illegible] photographers who had experimented [illegible] Tillman remarked, viewing the [illegible] standpoint, he should at once decide [illegible] a beneficial ingredient in this [illegible] in the amount of silver essential [illegible] the paper. Magnesium, although [illegible] compounds, often found associated [illegible] magnesium, in the process of combustion [illegible] enumerates the complete series of [illegible] light. We know the actinic waves [illegible] this light will cause a mechanical [illegible] oxygen (inert in the dark or under [illegible] may combine chemically and form [illegible] atomic weight of magnesium is [illegible] a multiple of the latter may be [illegible].

[illegible] of nitrate of silver, under the [illegible] instantaneous distraction of [illegible] with which it combines, probably [illegible] effect of one portion of its composition [illegible] peculiar numerical relations, [illegible] old notation, thus: (N O₆)xAg [illegible] weight of the first term (54) is just [illegible] (108). The absence of color or [illegible] may result from the interference [illegible] similar by action of the compound [illegible] by two similar series of air [illegible] sounds; but when brought to [illegible] completely neutralized, silence [illegible].

[illegible] used thus far, the action of [illegible] through a very small proportion of [illegible] becomes a part of the picture.

Hence it is an interesting problem to determine, by the use of other salts, the least quantity of silver required to produce the desired result.

DETERIORATION OF BITUMINOUS COAL.—Herr Grundmann of Farnowitz, in Germany, and Herr Varentrapp, have recently made experiments which prove conclusively that soft coal—both that used for coking and for gas—is slowly oxydized at ordinary temperatures. The conclusions of the latter are briefly stated by Prof. Rockwell, in *The American Journal of Mining*, as follows: That during the period of exposure the coal underwent a process of slow combustion, taking up oxygen and giving off the volatile products of oxydation. In this decomposition, air and moisture play the principal part, and warmth is the condition of promoting it. The degree of heat determines the rapidity of the process. The heat may be sufficient to ignite the inflammable gases, as is not unfrequently shown by the spontaneous combustion of large heaps of coal, and by the fires in the mines themselves; that the decomposition was the same in the interior of the heaps as on the surface, it being equally rapid at both points; that the action was most rapid during the first few weeks of exposure, the heat generated by decomposition reaching its maximum about the third or fourth week; that one-half the oxygen absorbed was taken up during the first fourteen days. The well known fact that coal long mined is far less liable to spontaneous combustion may be adduced as corroborative evidence of this. That a coal originally poor in oxygen, decomposes more rapidly than one rich in it. That coal, dried at a temperature of 212° Fahrenheit till its weight remains constant, can be heated up to 392° Fahrenheit (200° C.) without further loss of weight. Hence water is an active element in the decomposition. That large coal, exposing less surface to the action of the air and moisture than small coal, is much less rapidly decomposed. The tendency, however, of large lumps, having joints, to fall to pieces on exposure is well known.

The analysis of freshly mined coal of several heaps gave the following composition:

	I.	II.	III.
Carbon	71.51 per cent.	73.32 per cent.	82.71 per cent.
Hydrogen	5.32 per cent.	[illegible] per cent.	5.35 per cent.
Nitrogen	[illegible] per cent.	[illegible] per cent.	[illegible] per cent.
Oxygen	[illegible] per cent.	[illegible] per cent.	5.72 per cent.
Sulphur	1.64 per cent.	0.66 per cent.	0.77 per cent.
Ash	10.71 per cent.	[illegible] per cent.	6.03 per cent.
Total	100.	100.	100.

The result of the experiment is as follows:

SMALL COAL IN HEAPS.

	I.	II.	III.
Absolute loss of weight	23.05 per cent.	41.61 per cent.	42.19 per cent.
Loss of value as fuel	47.03 per cent.	[illegible] per cent.	[illegible] per cent.
Loss of value as gas	[illegible] per cent.	47.25 per cent.	50.10 per cent.

LARGE COAL KEPT UNDER COVER.

	I.	II.	III.
Absolute loss of weight	[illegible] per cent.	[illegible] per cent.	3.19 per cent.
Loss of value as fuel	[illegible] per cent.	9.04 per cent.	4.04 per cent.
Loss of value as gas	[illegible] per cent.	[illegible] per cent.	14.74 per cent.

The great mass of coal consumed in this part of our country being anthracite, the majority of consumers are not directly interested in the facts now presented. However, it behooves all bituminous coal miners and dealers, and more especially coal-gas companies to protect, as far as possible, their coal from exposure, and never to gather it in large heaps while it is wet.

FINE ARTS.

TRUE ART, CHROMO-LITHOGRAPHY, FALSE TEETH, FALSE LEGS AND KINDRED DECEPTIONS.

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune.

SIR: No critic bears to be criticised without lifting himself up to the highest pinnacle of his fortress, to hurl his weapons of destruction upon the most humble adversary; his opinion must be law; infallible, omnipotent law. This is once more made evident by your art critic's homily entitled "*Prang's Defense*," published in several of your late issues. His nature, stirred to the utmost depths by our daring to controvert his views, sweeps with a sword of fire (some smell of brimstone, too!) over our devoted head.

The interests of art, of artists, and of your art-loving readers demand that this question of chromo-lithography in its bearing on art culture be made perfectly clear, and if the process be proved injurious to the latter by applying it to the reproduction or imitation of paintings, as we do, it must be abolished. Less obstinate than your critic, we promise faithfully that we shall be open to conviction by arguments from any quarter, no matter what the interests they be to support our opponent's opinion; and when convinced of our errors we shall destroy our plates, our prints, and turn our talents and energies to other occupations.

Having been personally addressed by your critic, I ought to begin my answer with thanking him for his favorable comments on my qualifications as "a business man," but not being as [illegible] of the sincerity of that compliment, in view of his subsequent reflections on my good [illegible] and doubtful honesty, I at once turn my attention to more serious matters.

Your critic claims that chromoing a painting is trespassing on the legitimate sphere of another art, that it is the means of teaching people to what is false in art, that it is on the same line with false teeth, false hair, false diamonds and kindred deceptions, that it is no art at all, and must be classified with graining and house painting. Now, Sir, this is claiming language, and it should be remained that the man using it ought to be expert in many arts and trades, but it is evident that a morbid sensibility blinds him to certain truths quite evident to men of common sense, and leads him to an unqualified condemnation, as deceptions, of articles of real use, and indeed unquestionable blessings to humanity.

If the usefulness of our chromos could be made to stand on all with the usefulness of false teeth, for instance, it would be easy enough to fight our battle on this line, as certainly it is quite evident to common sense that a *well made* false tooth, improving speech and mastication, health and looks, stands on a par with "false" legs and "false" arms, the utility of which thousands of veteran defenders of the Republic could attest; and if your critic is bold enough to imply that, "as deceptions," they must be repudiated. The rule is, Sir, that any imitation for purposes of use, or pleasure, is legitimate and commendable, and only for purposes of deception, this abuse alone merits our reprobation. This rule is simple for a child to grasp, and your critic is welcome to its benefit.

The [illegible] that he is teaching what is true in art, and the [illegible] to people what is false, next calls for notice. If [illegible] that truth in art depends on a certain kind of canvas, brush, or material employed by the artist, then he is right; but if true art depends, as we hold, on a truthful representation, or description, of what the artist [illegible] healthy nature [illegible] false impressions of ideal beauty [illegible] material and means of production or reproduction have nothing whatever to do with it; prejudice alone, or distorted notions, can hold a different view. How, then, can he maintain that chromo-lithography teaches what is false in art, if by its means the truthful original may be copied to a dot? And why should it not be as legitimately employed as engraving or photography to describe a painting? Chromo-lithography has no narrow field, limited and circumscribed, as your critic's teachings would suggest; its field is *large* and *unlimited* for reproductions of designs in colors and (in its highest sphere) for paintings, to which it lends a hand like that of a thousand painters, and *near as good* in its perfected state. But no man should in the art of chromoing, Sir, can touch a painting and hope for results to satisfy an artist. This is a work for artists [illegible] in study of the fine arts to many of our painters. [illegible], Sir, bears no contradiction from your, or any other critic. [illegible] may say this without egotism, as I can fairly claim to be a better judge than any other man can be who lacks my practical knowledge of the art and the personal relations with its devotees. Chromo-lithography is art as much as is engraving when applied in its higher sphere of reproducing the works of masters in the fine arts. Or is your critic prepared to assert that engraving in this sense is not art?

Good paintings are lessons of beauty and blessings to our domestic and social feelings; all paintings represent nature more truthfully and more satisfactorily to the unsophisticated mind, and this makes them preferable to all others. Adopting these views, the reproduction of good paintings is to be desired as a popular benefit, and the process which can best do the work in spirit and in color must be *the one*, *the only one* adopted; and as it happens that chromo-lithography has no rival in the field, of course we have to take it up and welcome it, with all the ardor of a progressive, democratic nation. Art, artists, the millions of people, will reap a benefit from this invention, which very few at present can adequately estimate.

To reproduce a painting by chromo-lithography, and to obtain a copy identical with the original, is the natural and legitimate result of the art itself; it cannot be aught else according to the laws of its process, for if otherwise it certainly will prove a failure.

The great stress your critic lays on our imitating the very canvas lines and raised strokes of the brush, shows clearly the weakness of his whole position. He does not know that what we really care for in our process is not the canvas grain, but the effect it produces in mellowing surface lights and softening tints and lines; and what he calls the raised strokes of the brush are simply lights thrown in relief to increase the force of expression in certain parts. This artifice stands merely on a par with what most painters do to obtain similar effects. Your critic might have said: "Gentlemen, I would advise you to grain your prints in some other manner by which you could obtain the same artistic results, without leading people to believe that they buy canvas, whereas it is but paper." This would be a point of reasoning to which we should give all the attention it might deserve. I hope, Sir, I have thrown light sufficient on that topic for all who wish to see. If I still add that Mr. Tait and Mr. Bricher have favored us with the flattering assurance that our chromos are *equal to the best* they *ever saw*, rendering the spirit and coloring of their paintings faithfully and truly, and that we advertise and sell our chromos as such, and not as paintings (which would be a deception), I may leave the subject, unless your critic has anything new to offer really worthy of notice. As to the other parts of your critic's article, I reply merely, not to encroach too much upon your columns, that our chromo-artist's name will, as by right, appear on any chromo-picture of his, if he desires to have it thereon, together with the name of the original artist, and that certain reflections on my character as publisher, made, I surmise, to gain a point in favor of his controversy, are neither chivalrous nor worthy of the man, whom otherwise I would like to esteem for his boldness in proclaiming what he believes to be true, though it may be at war with common sense and unpopular with your readers.

And now, Sir, allow me to close with a notice cut from THE TRIBUNE a short time ago, which, bearing so direct on the subject under discussion, I cannot refrain from appending, leaving it for you to decide its reprint as a sign of the editor's good will. It reads thus: "Mr. Louis Prang has just issued a chromo-lithograph in oils of one of Mr. A. T. Tait's clever little pictures. The chromo-lithograph is a perfect fac-simile of the original painting, reproducing not only the brush-marks, but the very lines of the canvas, in a way that surprises by its ingenuity. Mr. Prang tries with all his might to make his imitations absolutely deceptive, not for the purpose of deceiving, but in order to put faithful copies 'as good as the originals' within reach of small purses. He brings to the work knowledge, business energy and enthusiasm, and, what is more, a generous spirit toward art and artists, which is very pleasant to meet with."

Yours truly, LOUIS PRANG.

Boston, December 20.

LITERATURE.

Frank Moore's new work on the "Women of the War" is having a large sale, the publishers, Scranton & Company of Hartford, Conn., finding it impossible to supply the demand, which has now reached from 600 to 1,000 copies a day, regularly.

Hurd & Houghton have in press for immediate publication a new and complete edition of "The Works of Charles Dickens," in 26 volumes, crown, 8vo, to contain all the illustrations that have appeared in the English edition by Cruikshank, Phiz, and others, elegantly engraved on steel, to which will be added the unsurpassed designs of F. O. C. Darley and John Gilbert, now in the "Household Edition."

Appleton & Company have in press several popular books, among which are: "The Geography of the Holy Land," by Carl Ritter; "A Book About Lawyers," by John C. Jeaffreson; "The New Testament History," edited by William Smith; "Dictionary of Proper Names," Biographical, Geographical, Historical, and Mythological, by F. A. Teall; "The Divine Life in Man, and The Soul's Exodus and Pilgrimage," by James Baldwin Brown.

Among the new works preparing for publication by G. P. Putnam & Son, are: "The World's Progress, A Dictionary of Dates," an entirely new edition, re-written, remodeled, and brought down to the present time, edited by G. P. Putnam, A. M.; "A New Introductory System of Geography," for Schools and Families, designed as a companion and supplement to books now in use, by the Hon. Theodore S. Fay, late U. S. Minister to Switzerland; "A New System of Astronomy," by the Hon. Theodore S. Fay, designed as a companion to his "Geography;" "Irving's Life of Washington," condensed, in 1 vol., large 12mo, for students, for young persons, and for popular reading; "Irving's Life of Columbus," condensed, for schools, district libraries, and general readers; "The Book of the Artists," by H. T. Tuckerman; "New Suggestions for Household Libraries," showing how they can be supplied with the best books and the best editions in the most economical manner, which are the best books for libraries of 200 vols., 500 vols., 1,000 vols., and more; "Suggestions for Village, Society, and Clergymen's or Parish Libraries," with hints and plans for collecting and circulating the largest amount of good books, American and foreign, at the smallest possible cost; "Irving's Spanish Papers," 2 vols., new edition; also on large paper, 2 vols., 8vo.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

A new tax has been decreed for the coming year of $1,020, or 60 ounces on each merchant doing business at Havana.

The Frankfort *Post Zeitung*, the oldest European paper, founded in 1616 by the Prince of Tour and Taxis, and continued under the patronage of their house ever since, has ceased to appear.

A recent French sensation is concerning a parish priest at Nevers, whose white hair is reported to have changed first to crimson, then to blue, and is now verging toward green. The phenomenon probably resulted from the use of some restorative which was "warranted not a dye."

The most astonishing sentence in the English language, at least for its great number of words, is probably the seventh section of the British Foreign Enlistment Act, which is composed of a single sentence containing very nearly 600 words.

The quantity of paper used every year in England represents a weight of about 200,000,000 pounds. France uses 1[illegible],000,000 pounds, while the United States of America, with a much smaller population, consumes more paper than England and France put together, viz.: 440,000,000 pounds.

A Paris telegram through Mr. Reuter's agency says that in consequence of an understanding between the English and French Governments, the Extradition Treaty of 1843, which expires on the 4th of December next, will continue in force until the beginning of September, 1867.

An American Missionary, Mr. Jessup, writes from Beyrout in September, of the Maine Colony: "These persons will find that once outside of Jaffa gardens the plain is frequented by the Bedouin; the Holy Land will be too hot for them in more senses than one. It is an insane undertaking. I have noticed advertisements of the scheme in the papers from time to time, but regarded it as a hoax. We now hear they are coming. May the Lord have mercy on them!"

An English bookseller was lately puzzled by a telegraphic order. The story is told by a correspondent of *The London Times*: "I had occasion to telegraph to Cambridge for a book. The book was a copy of prize poems, containing, as the telegram was worded, 'Johnson's Poem on Plato.' By the time the message reached Cambridge (it would have to pass through London on its way) it had become altered into 'John Pomens on Plato Money.'" The bookseller at Cambridge wrote me by return mail to say that he regretted his inability to find any such work.

It appears that wild boars are excessively abundant in the province of Luxembourg, France. They are met with in droves of 20 or 30. One old solitaire was lately killed in the forest of Merlenveaux which weighed 170 lbs. In a battue at Rucetto a wolf of enormous size was shot. From the muzzle to the end of the tail he measured eight feet. This old depredator was well known for a gray coat in the neighborhood which he had ravaged for many years. Finally, a journal of Arlon states that wolves are beginning to reappear in considerable numbers in the Luxembourg forests. Several of them have already been killed.

The Minister of the Interior has addressed a circular to the Prefects, intimating that the French committee established to promote the object of the International Convention concluded at Geneva in August, 1864, on behalf of soldiers wounded in battle, has obtained a certain space at the Universal Exhibition of 1867, for the purpose of laying before the public the various articles connected with the hospital arrangements and ambulances. The Prefects are therefore requested to promote subscriptions for the purpose, and mention is made that the Emperor, Empress, and Prince Imperial head the list of patrons.

The Council-General of the Department of the Seine-Inferieure has declared war against the cockchafer and its progeny. Having voted some £630 for the destruction of the larvæ of this insect about 160 tuns weight were bought in and paid for. This mass was buried in ditches and covered with quick lime, making, it is said, ultimately an excellent manure; the larvæ thus being made to contribute to the growth of the vegetation which they would otherwise have destroyed. The larvæ is of a whitish color, and exceedingly destructive, but not more so than the full-grown insect, which devours large quantities of leaves.

The daily consumption of oysters in Paris amounts to upward of three-quarters of a million, which reach the capital in something like 6,000 baskets, each of which contains a gross, and furnishes altogether on an average half an oyster per head of the population. The number of snails—now so favorite and edible with the Parisian gourmands as to have thrown the frog, the national delicacy par excellence, completely into the shade—brought daily to the Paris market is not so easily ascertained; all one knows is that from Burgundy and Champagne, the great snail producing districts, upward of 100,000 are dispatched to Paris every day.—Pall Mall Gazette.

PERSONAL.

Prince Peter Bonaparte has entered the Italian service with the rank of general.

The Cruikshank testimonial is progressing satisfactorily. The subscriptions of the committee (a very large one) will amount to nearly 1,000£.

It is said that Gen. Winfield Scott's daughter died in a French convent of a broken heart, because her father would not consent to her marriage with a French officer.

Mr. Moens, whose [illegible] last year, has purchased an estate at Boldre, near Lymington, in Hampshire.

A cotemporary says that when Mr. Cardwell is walking in the Eternal City the Roman matrons kneel before him, saying, "He looks a saint every inch."

The *Mémorial Diplomatique* asserts that the health of Herr von Bismark will prevent his attending to any sedentary business for a long time.

Mlle. Carlotta Patti has just entered into an engagement to appear in a series of concerts during the Paris Exhibition.

One hundred and ninety head of game were shot by the French Emperor's own gun during one day's "sport" at Compiegne last month.

Ira Aldridge, the negro actor, has been "starring" at Versailles in his character of Othello. His performances have occasioned quite a sensation.

Miss Virginia Penny, a teacher in Louisville, Ky., has been fined one cent and costs on a charge of assault and battery on a pupil.

Mrs. Elizabeth Sprankle, a widow lady residing in Muskingum County, Ohio, last week gave birth to four living children.

Mr. Samuel T. Williams, the newly appointed Consul for the United States at Hamburg, has arrived in that city, and, having exhibited his commission, has received his exequatur, and entered on the duties of his office.

Mr. Stodare, the brother of the late Col. Stodare, has taken the Salle Herz for the exhibition of magic and prestidigitation. It was in this hall that the Brothers Davenport held their *séances*.

Davis Richards, reputed one of the best bare back riders in Europe, fell from his horse recently, in the circus at St. Petersburgh, and was killed. He was an American, and his relatives live near Philadelphia.

A man named Hartman accidently hung himself near Bellevue, Iowa, a few days since, by being caught by his "comforter" while descending from a tree. When taken down life was extinct.

M. Kaulla, banker at Stuttgart, has gained the prize of 300,000 florins at the last lottery in Austria, being another exemplification of the proverb, "*L'eau va toujours à la rivière.*"

When the King of Italy arrived in Florence after the Venetian fêtes, he was met by Baron Ricasoli, who offered him his hand. "No," said Victor Emanuel, "let us embrace each other!" and he suited the action to the word.

On the 10th inst., a son of Robert E. Lee was chosen Professor of Mathematics for the Maryland Agricultural College at Bladensburg, recently reorganized. This Lee is a graduate of West Point and an ex-officer of the Rebel Army.

The newly-born child of the Infanta Maria-Christina de Bourbon, wife of the Don Sebastian-Gabriel, has been baptized at Madrid with 27 names, the first being Alphonso, and the last Todos los Santos (all the Saints.)

Gen. Joseph Wheeler, the Rebel cavalry officer, has been elected Professor of Natural Science in the Louisiana State Seminary, in which Raphael Semmes occupies the chair of Moral Philosophy.

A Swiss watchmaker named Jeanerett, of Norfolk, Va., recently committed suicide after placing quite a sum of money in the hands of one person for distribution among the poor, and another large sum in the hands of another person for his brother.

We read in a Paris letter: "The Prince Imperial nearly invariably appears in Highland costume, and is getting on wonderfully with his English studies. He received as a present the other day from his august father a complete edition of the works of Charles Dickens."

The Russian Empress is expected at Toulon on the 22d of this month, on her way to Nice, where the Czarowitch and his bride are to join her during the course of January, it being the intention of the Empress to winter in the south of France.

Gen. Hugh Ewing, the United States Embassador to the King of the Netherlands, crossed the Atlantic in the Bremen steamship Hermann, and on his arrival in the Weser proceeded to the Hague, accompanied by Mrs. Ewing and family.

The Government has it in contemplation to place Admiral Farragut next Spring in command of the Mediterranean squadron. It is understood that the gallant Admiral would be delighted to revisit the shores of the Mediterranean, where he had been in the early part of his life.

Edward Everett's heirs lately received a letter from somebody in Texas who didn't know he was dead, advising him to make fame and money by an eulogy on the Confederate dead. The adviser kindly suggested that it should not be more than two hours long, and "full of chaste imagery, classical diction, and syntactical emphasis."

It is rumored, and apparently on good authority that the Hon. Ben Wood, State Senator, in a trial of skill with Congressman elect the Hon. John Morrissey, at the scientific game of faro, on Wednesday night last, realized the handsome winnings of $140,000. The contest took place at the headquarters of Congressman Morrissey, on Twenty-fourth-st., this city.

The death of a remarkable rabbi of the Jewish Church of Germany is announced. M. Frank was a native of Wilna, born in the year 1758, so that he had attained his 108th year. At that advanced period of life he was without any of the infirmities of old age; his hearing was perfect, he read without spectacles, and took long walks up to the last week of his life.

A London actor the other day sued a journal for libel because it had declared that his performance of Siebel in "Faust and Marguerite, was that of 'a chattering jackanape.'" The Judge, as befitted his dignity, pretended not to know what a jackanape was; and a ponderous copy of Dr. Johnson's dictionary was brought into Court, and after much legal discussion it was settled that the critic was justified.

GENERAL NEWS.

The bonded debt of the City and County of San Francisco now outstanding amounts to $4,947,294.

It is stated of the population of Nantucket, that one of every 16 is over 70 years of age.

A child in Manchester, Ohio, died recently from swallowing a green worm, picked up in a cornfield.

Six pigs, 7 months and 22 days old, all of one litter, were killed in Yarmouth last week that dressed 2,128 pounds, averagin 354⅔ pounds each.

The Post-Office in New-York paid 2,250 money orders for the week ending Dec. 15, amounting to about $45,000. This business is growing very rapidly, and 67 new offices are soon to be opened on the Pacific Coast.

About 75 freedmen are sent North weekly by Brig.-Gen. Charles H. Howard, Assistant-Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau for this District, where excellent homes are obtained for them.

The "Alleganians," the well-known vocalists and bell-ringers, recently returned from a tour in Europe, gave their first concerts since their return, last Friday and Saturday evenings, at Mozart Hall, Cincinnati, to large and fashionable audiences.

The greatest wonder in the State of Iowa is the "Walled Lake," which is three feet higher than the earth's surface, and occupies 1,800 acres. It has not yet been ascertained where the water comes from or where it goes to, yet it always remains fresh and clear.

The Maine State Musical Association will meet at Lewiston on Tuesday, January 15, and continue three days, under the charge of B. F. Baker of this city. The exercises will conclude with the performance of the "Creation," in which the Mendelssohn Quintette Club of this city will assist.

The Albany Penitentiary was managed the present year at a net profit of $24,412, with an expenditure of $52,562. The principal labor has been shoemaking for men, and bottoming chairs by women. But a little more than a third of the prisoners could read and write.

Work on the Pacific Railroad has been suspended for the Winter. It is open for 2[illegible] miles west of Omaha, or about half way to Denver. The fare through to Denver is $100, or $25 for 200 miles of railway, and $75 for 300 miles of staging. Express freight is 25 cents a pound.

The scheme to remove female clerks in the Treasury Department has been abandoned, at least for the present. Secretary McCulloch on Monday sent word to a female clerk, widow of a deceased soldier, that she should not be removed.

The important question of the right of a State to tax the stock of a National Bank will soon be argued before the Supreme Court at Washington. Several eminent lawyers, who are engaged in the case, have already arrived at Washington from New-York, among whom are Charles O'Conor, Waldo Hutchins, and Richard O'Gorman.

The official document shows that, in addition to the common and other stores of the several navy-yards and depots, there are now on board of the vessels of the Navy in commission 1,029 cannon of all calibers with carriages and equipments, and 1,000 rounds of ammunition for each.

It appears from the Superintendent of Public Printing that the cost of the printing, binding, lithographing and engraving, ordered by the two Houses of Congress for the year ending September 30, 1866, was $1,012,000, and for the Executive and Judiciary Departments $622,000 for the same period. The value of stock on hand is nearly $50,000.

The British postal reports show that the voyage of the Cunard mail steamers, from Liverpool to New-York, average 12 days 11 hours each, and the return voyages, from New-York to Liverpool, 11 days 7 hours each. Between Liverpool and Boston the voyages average 13 days to Boston, and 11 days on the return to Liverpool.

The Post-Office at Port Deposit, Maryland, was entered on Monday night by burglars and all the letters in the office rifled, including the mail matter of the Southern and the Eastern mails, and also for Lancaster and Washington, to be mailed next morning. From 100 to 700 letters were taken away. An officer of the Post-Office Department has left Washington to investigate the matter.

It is asserted that the arrest of Surratt may materially alter the complexion of Jeff. Davis's case, and others supposed to have been engaged in the assassination plot. It is authoritatively stated that the judicial authorities in Washington are awaiting the arrival of Surratt, and upon his revelations will entirely depend the future action of the Government.

Samuel B. Ruggles, one of the United States Commissioners to the Paris Exposition, is now in Washington for the purpose of conferring with the Government and Congress on the present condition and prospects of that affair. He reports a very large amount of cereals, mineral products, agricultural machinery, &c., as having arrived at the agency in New-York, and that everything looks most favorable.

The Commissioner of the Land Office, in Washington, has received from an officer in Colorado specimens of silver ore from the Anglo-Norman lode, near the head waters of Snake River, which was discovered last Summer. The whole lode averages about $600 in coin per ton. A shaft has been sunk 18 feet, and the ore has gradually improved during the whole depth. An assayer certifies that he found the ore to contain 70 3-10 per cent per ton of 2,000 pounds avoirdupois.

At Albany recently a little boy named Hogan was playing among some empty potato barrels with three or four other children. He got into one of them feet foremost, and his innocent companions playfully raised the barrel upon its end, thus placing the boy upon his head. In this position he was left until the blood rushed to his head and his face had become black from the cause. When removed he was taken to his home, but died in a few hours afterward.

The report of our Superintendent of the Mint shows the gold, silver, and copper coinage from 1793 to 1866 inclusive, as $[illegible],500,000. The gold coinage was about $645,[illegible]; the silver, $[illegible], and the copper, $5,500,000. The total coinage of the Branch Mint at San Francisco, during the first eight months of the year, was $9,642,000 of gold, and nearly $500,000 of silver. As there was a subsequent increase, the director thinks the business of the year will be fully up to [illegible].

A bill has been introduced into Congress by Mr. Wilson of Massachusetts for the establishment of a library in the City of Washington for the use of the Government employés, and other persons; that the Secretary of the Interior be required to lease a suitable building for the purpose named; that the books now in the possession of the Executive Departments of the Government, and used as libraries for the clerks and employés, shall be turned over to the Secretary of the Interior, or to some suitable person designated by him, who shall cause them to be deposited in the building provided. It is further stated that the library and reading-room shall be open to all persons for reference, free of cost, and Government employés desiring to use books at their homes may do so by paying an annual tax of $1, and other citizens of the District shall have the same privilege upon the payment of $5.

MINING.

IDAHO.

The following table, compiled by John A. Post, Internal Revenue Collector, shows the value in currency of the bullion product of Owyhee from January 1 to Nov. 1, 1866:

January	$66,632 81	July	$46,456 26
February	62,674 00	August	177,704 15
March	15,840 85	September	293,921 53
April	11,206 25	October	371,173 13
May	34,570 34		
June	46,224 44	Total	$1,073,256 78

During the early part of the year, Mr. Post says, there was a great amount of treasure sent out in various shapes of which he could get no account. To the foregoing must still be added the many tons of ruby silver, polybasite, &c., shipped just as it came from the Poorman mine—enough, at a rough estimate, to increase the total to $1,500,000, at least. It is safe to say that the product of the present year will be $2,000,000, and that of next year go beyond $3,000,000.

NEVADA.

The Nevada Transcript gives the following account of mining matters in Nevada County: The quartz prospectors are rapidly extending their operations toward the foot-hills, and in many localities they have met with excellent success in the development of ledges. On both sides of Bear River, almost to the valley, good indications are found. On the south of the river, a short distance from the Coleman road, machinery has been erected upon the Rising Star lodge, and excellent quartz has been struck. Further down the river on the Placer side, the Harpending mine is situated. This is one of the most extensive gold-bearing veins in the State, extending entirely through Placer, crossing into the lower portion of Nevada and running through Yuba north of Brown's Valley. The ledge where the Harpending claim is located varies from 50 to 200 feet in width, and the rock is so easily worked that, although it is of low grade, it can be crushed at a large profit. Considerable prospecting is being done west of the Globe Ranch, and we are informed that some very good ledges have been found. But a few years ago the man who engaged in prospecting for gold-bearing rock in the foot-hills would have been pronounced crazy. All the old notions in regard to quartz have been abandoned, and it is now believed that rich lodges may be found in every part of the country, from the valleys to the eastern State line.

County Assessor Bean has recently visited the cement mines about Hunt's and Quaker Hills, and has obtained some valuable statistics from which we are enabled to learn something of the cost and profit of working cement. The Gougeye Mill, owned by Goodspeed & Co., at Hunt's Hill, cost $3,000. The mill has eight stamps, and is run by a hurdy-gurdy water-wheel, which requires 32 inches of water per day. Water costs 25 cents per inch. The mill crushes 50 tuns of cement every 24 hours, and the actual cost of working it is $22 per day. The last crushing of 225 tuns, worked in four days and a half, paid an average of $6 per tun. This Company has drifted on the channel a width of 150 feet, and have a bank of cement 20 feet deep. Among other mills on the west of Greenhorn Creek are the Green Mountain, a new ten-stamp mill, and the Empire, which is of the same size. Carney and Tucker have a new eight-stamp mill, which works 60 tuns in 24 hours. The Eastern and Jenny Lind Companies have excellent mills. These mills are all run by water-power, and use the hurdy-gurdy wheel, which is considered by miners the best in use. All the claims on the west side of Greenhorn Creek are looking well.

The mines in the vicinity of Forest Springs are yielding handsomely, and that locality has improved rapidly in the past three months. Some of the new mines are being supplied with machinery, and the mills are kept in constant operation, yielding handsome returns for their owners.

VIRGINIA.

There has recently been discovered in the southern part of Facquier County, Va., a deposit of gold of unusual richness. The owners of the land have opened five veins, at depths varying from five to 30 feet, and the veins are from one to five feet thick. The samples of gold we have seen in the quartz rock are an assurance that there is money in the investment; all that is lacking being capital to make it productive. The farm on which it has been found contains nearly 400 acres. It lies between the celebrated Franklin Mine on the one side, and the Wykoff and Liberty Mines on the other. Efforts were made years ago to buy the land by those owning the Franklin Mine, but the old gentleman who owned it was suspicious of gold operators, and would not so much as allow them to come upon his land, much less "prospect." By his death the land has fallen into other hands, and we believe it has been put into the hands of Minor & Co. of Fredericksburg for sale.

[Fredericksburg Herald.

CANADA.

The Commissioner of Crown Lands has received from the Inspector of the Madoc gold region rich specimens of gold in quartz and sand. The Inspector reports mining operations carried on in five concessions in Madoc, and 14th concession of Huntingdon. From one lot between $1,000 and $1,500 have been taken out. Gold was first struck at a depth of 20 feet. From specimens of quartz seen the inspector is of the opinion that gold exists through the townships of Rawdon, Madoc and Elzivir, and portions of Marmora and Tudor. Three thousand persons visited the mining regions last month.

AGRICULTURAL.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE FARMERS' CLUB.

TUESDAY, Dec. 25.—Not being acquainted with Whose Day, there was a full attendance of the Club, the Rev. Dr. Hawes in the chair. The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and approved. Mr. Ellsworth called the attention of the members to the Cattle Show which is to be held in Albany, and requested members who intended to attend, to inform persons from them, who were not in the Institute, of the Cattle Show.

Mr. Thayer rules from Monticello N. Y., which is a very delightful place, that he intends to be there, and "doubtless could find his place." It is not to-day, or the next morning, that he can be spared, but he will, if possible, be on the morning of the 4th inst. to attend to the Cattle Show and Meeting of Delegates.

Prof. Arnold, of Hobart College, Geneva, Seneca Co., N. Y., wrote to know if he can attend to use salt at the Cattle Show, on the 4th inst.

Mr. Ogden thought that he might be in attendance at Hobart's spot a little, when he ensures sufficiently hard weather, and which he hopes will occur before the next monthly meeting.

Mr. Ellsworth, one of those who have used salt meat, that it would hardly pay to use it for fattening, and yet, at that price, he is continuing use of it. Mr. Ellsworth, in a letter, stated that he had used it in the Institute, and that it was a good article, but that it was not available to the plants; and it has been proved by experiment in New York that there is only six pounds of the fertilizing virtue of the salt, to one of the water. The ashes of potato tops, he stated, are better.

The earliest way to eradicate the field on the hill, which is now spreading over the country, is to cut the tops off the plants, and then, after a few days, to plow up the potato patch, and it will shake and escape the ground.

Cost of Cattle Shows.—The Institute Cattle Show cost somewhat, and at one time per cow, or wood or tame cow, it cost about $1 per head.

Mr. Ogden said that the Institute Cattle Show was a very large, "Show Business" and cost a great deal of money.

Mr. Ellsworth said that the Institute Cattle Show was a delightful one, and that it was a very good one, and that it was a very good one, and that it was a very good

...
And the storm king never heed.

AUGUSTUS WATERS.

One of the sincerest of the European friends of American freedom and progress, the Count Agenor de Gasparin, gives us in a letter to-day an able and intelligent view of the problem of reconstruction. He believes that the Constitutional Amendment, as it stands, can be no final remedy for our troubles, and that even as an expedient there is no certain reason to believe that it will bring about the reconciliation of races and the early enfranchisement of the blacks. Such a form of coercion may seem ever so persuasive, but the South is left at liberty to fortify its white prejudices within still narrower lines of caste. There is but one solvent, thinks M. de Gasparin, for our general trouble, and that is "Universal Amnesty and Universal Suffrage." The former must settle the white part of the question; the latter must satisfy the blacks; and together they should meet the nation's whole demand. The local and temporary embarrassments of the case our writer does not argue; but his views are in the main very just and timely.

Christmas was celebrated in New-York and the adjacent cities with the best of feeling and good cheer, and without anything to mar the general festivity. The churches were opened in the morning, the streets were gay and brilliant, and the generous spirit of the day penetrated even the dark cells of the Penitentiary and the Tombs. To many who were happy in their comfortable homes the joy of the festival may have been increased by the knowledge that so much has been done to make this Christmas something more than a name to the poor. In all the public institutions the anniversary was observed, and even the criminal and the outcast were not excluded from the blessings of the day.

A special dispatch from Matamoros informs us that Minister Campbell has joined Escobedo, and set out with him to find Juarez, to whom doubtless he is accredited by our Government. This was decided after consultation with Gen. Sherman. The meaning of the movement can be nothing less than that the United States recognizes Juarez as the head of the legitimate Government of Mexico, and it may mean something more.

Several persons send us communications about lotteries, asking that we will help this, and denounce the other. We have only to say in reply that we have no relations with people who manage lotteries, and no special sympathy with those who invest in them and get no return, whether they are cheated by one pretense or another is of very little consequence.

[illegible]

MARRIED.

[illegible]

DIED.

[illegible]

HOPKINS—At Canandaigua, ... beth Hopkins.

MOTT—At Burlington, N. ... aged 73 years. ... paralysis, Hannah B. Mott, ...

PEET—At East Hampton, ... Frederick T. Peet of Brooklyn, aged 66 years.

[illegible] William A. Seaman, in the 25th year of his age.

SEGEE—At Bridgeport, Conn., on Wednesday, Dec. 19, ... Buckley, twin daughter of Philip B. Segee, aged 4 years.

SEGUINE—On Monday night, December 17, at his residence, Annandale, Staten Island, Stephen Seguine, in the 43d year of his age.

SCHOONMAKER—At Flatbush, L. I., on Thursday, Dec. ..., 80th year of her age, Mrs. Eliza H., widow of Michael Schoonmaker.

VOORHEES—At Elizabeth, N. J., on Sunday, Dec. 16, ... Voorhees, aged 65 years.

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